# Maganto taps 300,000 civilians to flush out hit men

Story below

## 'Tis the season to kiss even Siamese twins

NAUNAHAN PALA AKO NI GMA SA MGA BOTO— EHEK—MGA BATA!

**By Volt Contreras**

YOU know the election season is upon us when politicians start kissing babies and surrounding themselves with children, preferably in the full glare of media cameras.

'TIS/ A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

## World families meet is hell for motorists

**By Philip C. Tubeza**

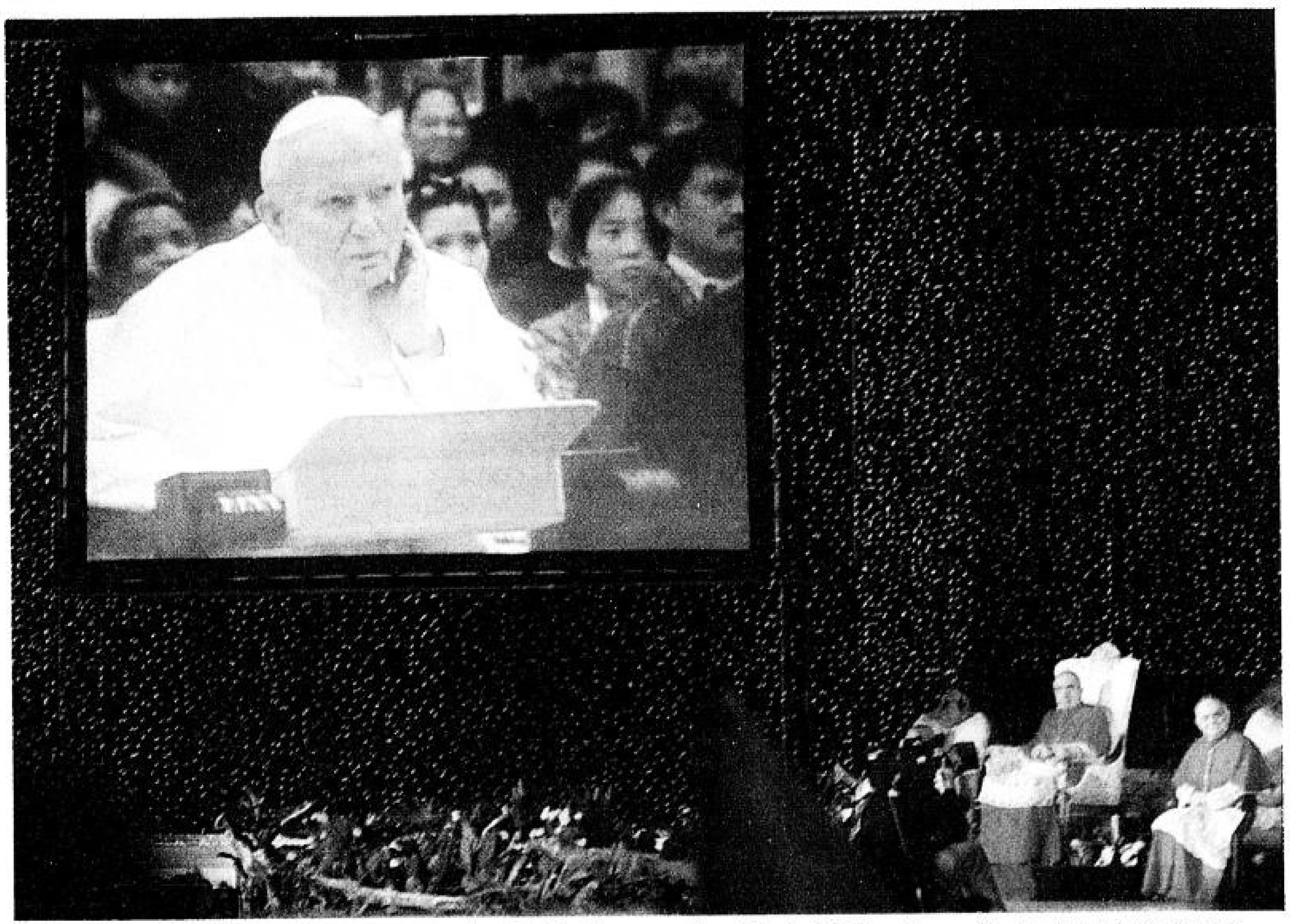
TRAFFIC was hell for many motorists and commuters in Manila yesterday as delegates to the 4th World Meeting of Families gathered at the Rizal Park for the religious celebration's closing ceremonies today.

As the delegates inspired religious fer-

WORLD/ A18

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph January 26, 2003 ★★ 86 pages / 7 sections / vol. 18 / no. 49 P15 website: www.inq7.net

# Gloria OKs peace plan



THE WORLD'S a stage for the concerns of the family which deeply concern Pope John Paul II who addresses the Fourth World Meeting of Families at the Quirino Grandstand on Saturday via a live video feed direct from the Vatican. *(More photos on Page A18)* JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

## *Comprehensive draft could end 34-year communist insurgency*

**By Dona Pazzibugan and Delfin T. Mallari,** *PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

**A DAY after the assassination of the former New People's Army chief Romulo Kintanar, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday announced she has approved the government's draft of a final peace agreement with the communists to end a nationwide 34-year insurgency.**

But she warned the offer is only good for those who renounce violence.

"We're surprised at how quickly it was approved," said Silvestre Bello III, head of the government panel negotiating with the National Democratic Front, the political wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Bello said the Cabinet oversight committee on internal security had been deliberating on the draft peace proposal since September. It submitted the proposal to the President last Friday.

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said formal peace talks can now resume following the President's approval of the draft agreement. But the communists and their armed wing, the NPA, still have to be presented with the proposal.

Though the self-exiled leader and CPP founder, Jose Ma. Sison, said it was "fine" that the President has expressed willingness to resume the peace negotiations," he remained skeptical.

"Let us see whether we can resume these (peace talks) in accordance with the Hague Joint Declaration and without any threats and interference from the US," Sison, who's based in Utrecht, The Netherlands, said in response to an e-mailed query from the INQUIRER in Lucena City.

He added: "I hope that she ceases to follow the mania of General Angelo Reyes for all-out war."

The President, who spoke before a gathering of the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association at Camp Aguinaldo did not elaborate on the peace proposal. She would only say that it meets the standards of sovereignty and the Constitution and had been vetted by congressional leaders and the Armed Forces.

Bello said the draft agreement is a comprehensive one that covers all major aspects in the talks: human rights, socioeconomic reforms, political and constitutional reforms, and the end of hostilities.

He could not say when the negotiations would resume.

The peace talks were suspended in June 2001 after the assassination of former Cagayan Rep. Rodolfo Aguinaldo, who was an intelligence officer of the defunct Philippine Constabulary.

"We still have to convince (the other panel) to agree to a comprehensive agreement instead of four piecemeal agreements," Bello said.

Following the President's speech, military and police officials challenged the communists to show their sincerity toward a lasting peace by accepting the government's proposed peace

GLORIA/ A6

AND baby makes 10. Rose and Rodrigo Alenton with their nine children, plus one, Maria Jose (inset) born to his mother, a delegate to the congress of families which ends today. Mother and child are doing fine at the UERM hospital. JOAN BONDOC

## Pope: Let marriage be the good news

**By Armand N. Nocum**

POPE John Paul II yesterday urged Catholics all over the world to remain committed to their marriages and keep their families intact, saying this could be the "good news of the third millennium."

In a message telecast live via satellite last night from the Vatican and beamed to the 300,000 people gathered for the Fourth World Meeting of Families at the Quirino Grandstand in Rizal Park, the Pope asked Catholics to make the "Gospel the guiding principle of your families, and make your families a page of the Gospel written for our time."

The Quirino Grandstand was decorated in uniquely Filipino multicolored buntings usually seen during fiestas in keeping with the festive mood of the family congress.

Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin and papal legate Alfonso Cardinal Lopez Trujillo sat in gilded chairs with other church dignitaries.

Entertainers belted out religious songs. There was a live orchestra. Broadcast and showbiz personalities fueled up the enthusiasm of the mostly young crowd.

The crowd also had a sizeable contingent

POPE/ A18

## Ex-rebs' livelihood was Rolly's vision

**By Volt Contreras**

LIVELIHOOD projects and community learning centers are in the works in an impoverished town in Bulacan.

Around 15 activists and former members of the New People's Army are putting up this cooperative-type undertaking in San Miguel where, it is said, illiteracy remains widespread, slippers for the children are beyond the purchasing power of families, and rebel activity is high. They have so far recruited around 45 of the townfolk.

The late ex-rebel Romulo Kintanar could have been part of the venture but now it is only his guidance that remains, Jo, a member of the core group, told the INQUIRER.

"[The project] was really his vision, but he served more as our adviser who preferred to keep a low profile," said Jo, who chose to use an alias for this report in view of how Kintanar lost his life. *"Ayaw na niyang pumapel* (He didn't want a visible role in it)."

According to Jo, the "vision" is to put up learning centers in the far-flung barangays to make up for the lack of government-built school buildings, and to train the townfolk in organic farming. Jo's assignment is to handle the marketing of the harvest.

Jo said that for the past two months, Kintanar served as their "guide" on whom to approach for funding and other donations.

EX-REBS'/ A6

## Maganto taps 300,000 civilians

**By Leila Salaverria, Juliet Javellana and TJ Burgonio**

TO NEUTRALIZE the communist hit squad that is supposedly targeting government officials, 300,000 civilians, including taxi drivers, will be mobilized nationwide.

This according to Chief Supt. Romeo Maganto, who had been appointed by President Macapagal-Arroyo to head Task Force Rolly to go after the killers of Romulo Kintanar.

Maganto said taxi drivers, especially those in the metropolis, and members of non-government organizations will play key roles in his campaign.

"I'm utilizing them as civilian informers," Maganto said in a phone interview. "They're on the streets [and have the opportunity to spot the hit men]. In the case of taxi drivers, they [hit men] sometimes ride in their cabs."

In this connection, Maganto said he has sought the help of Bantay Bayan, the National Alliance for Democracy, National Crusade for Peace and Democracy, and dzRH's Operation Tulong, which is made up of 1,500 taxi drivers doubling as volunteer reporters.

The members of the groups cited number in the thousands, he said.

Maganto also said he would initially focus on raiding the hit

MAGANTO/ A6

CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO

**RIZAL** shrine rises on a 5-hectare park in Siongque village of Jinjiang City in Fujian, China. House Speaker and Mrs. Jose de Venecia led a delegation at its inaugural Thursday.

**WEATHER FORECAST**

FORECAST: Bicol region, Visayas and Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/01/26/03

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Metro Manila | Partly Cloudy | Iloilo/Bacolod | Cloudy with Rains |
| Baguio | Partly Cloudy | Roxas | Cloudy with Rains |
| Tuguegarao | Partly Cloudy | Cebu | Cloudy with Rains |
| Laoag | Partly Cloudy | Tacloban | Cloudy with Rains |
| Clark Zone | Partly Cloudy | Gen. Santos | Cloudy with Rains |
| Tagaytay | Partly Cloudy | Zamboanga | Cloudy with Rains |
| Legaspi | Cloudy with Rains | Cagayan de Oro | Cloudy with Rains |
| Calapan | Partly Cloudy | Davao | Cloudy with Rains |

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

## Second FRONT PAGE

# GMA backtracks on population issue

**IT does not do to even timidly hint at tackling the country's alarming birth rate when a Church-sponsored 4th World Meeting of Families is going on in your capital.**

Thus did President Macapagal-Arroyo find herself yesterday explaining the carefully worded ruminations on the country's population problem that her executive secretary, Alberto Romulo, read for her during the opening of the conference the other day.

Her population control policy was anchored on Christian family values and principles and would focus on the "natural" means of birth control, the President assured Church leaders on the penultimate day of the conference yesterday.

"My population policy is based on Christian formation and the Constitution," she said in a radio message.

In a speech that to suspicious clerics sounded like a "new" approach to the population conundrum, Ms Macapagal pointed to a strong correlation between poverty and high population growth.

This, she said, necessitated that the government address the high birth rate with a proactive population control program.

To that end, she said she had ordered the health department to conduct a national campaign to "enable all Filipino families to make informed choices through fertility awareness education."

That was like waving the red flag to the Church which frowns on the use of contraceptives to curb population growth and suspected that Ms Macapagal's seemingly "innocent" statements were her way of announcing a departure from her "old" population policy that carefully toed the Church line.

Novaliches Bishop Teodoro Bacani and other Church leaders demanded that the President explain her "new" policies to Church officials, which Ms Macapagal obliged yesterday.

The President said her population policy has four principles: responsible parenthood, respect for life, birth spacing and informed choice.

She said that under the government's population education campaign, health workers would be teaching couples about "modern and scientific means of natural family planning."

She added that the Department of Health has tapped the Couples for Christ, a Catholic lay organization, to promote natural family planning in the country.

"This is Christian, this is responsible and this is constitutional. And we will pursue this all the way until I pass on the policy, hopefully, to my successor," Ms Macapagal said.

At the same time, however, the President said she had instructed the DOH to undertake an education campaign on responsible parenthood to let couples "make truly informed choices" about their preferred means of birth control.

She said the government would remind parents of their responsibility to determine the right number of children.

"We would let them choose the means by which to implement their decision according to their cultural and religious beliefs," she said.

The government would be promoting among families the practice of spacing births by two or three years.

"And we will tell them (parents) there are modern technologies on how to do this which would not go against their beliefs," Ms Macapagal said.

The President seems convinced that many Filipino parents do not practice family planning because they do not have enough information how to go about it.

"Although we respect the right of a couple to decide the size of their family, we should remind them that the quality of their lives depends on the size of their family," she added.

The Catholic Church hierarchy is against the use of contraceptives and abortion to bring down the country's high population growth.

Church leaders are worried that the President would endorse the use of contraceptives when she made the connection between poverty and population growth in her speech.

Before that now controversial speech; the President said her policy was to make parents take the responsibility for planning their family.

But as she did not push for specific means of family planning, she did not ruffle any clerical feathers.

Lately, however, business leaders worried about the effects of the unchecked population growth on the ailing economy have urged the President to take a more aggressive stance on the problem.

**MACAPAGAL: Church asked her to explain new policies.**

The country's population exceeded 80 million last year. The Philippines has one of the highest population growth rates in Asia, at 2.36 percent annually.

Almost 40 percent of Filipinos live in poverty earning less than US$ a day. *Dona Pazzibugan*

# Church group says population control does not solve poverty

**By Blanche Rivera**

"POVERTY is not solved by preventing procreation," the International Theological and Pastoral Congress asserted in a resolution reaffirming the Catholic Church's strong opposition to artificial means of population control.

The ITPC, one of the most important gatherings in the ongoing 4th World Meeting of Families, said that population programs promoting contraception, desterilization and abortion did not help the poverty situation and were in fact anti-poor.

"We firmly reject the practice of population control whether exercised by international, government or private agencies," the resolution read.

It said that it was the poor families that bore the brunt of population programs which absorbed "large sums of money" from governments but did not improve the lives of the poor.

"We call on the government to turn away from population control and focus on concrete policies that favor poor families in terms of health, education, agrarian reform, employment and housing," the ITPC said.

The congress' pointed reference to government population policy came as Church leaders sought an explanation from President Macapagal-Arroyo's planned campaign to tackle overpopulation.

It seemed to Church officials that the President, who has given little priority to birth control in the past, was announcing a new policy to bring down the high birth rate through the use of contraceptive methods which the Church opposes.

Msgr. Jesus Romulo Ranada, a member of the ITPC central committee, said the resolution would be submitted to the Vatican next week.

He said the resolution would become official once it is published in the official gazette of the Vatican.

More than 65 international and local speakers presented their positions and testimonies at the ITPC which ran from Jan. 22 to 24.

It counted some 4,600 participants, consisting of bishops, priests, cardinals, parents, children above 18 years of age, religion teachers and community organizers, making this year's gathering the biggest in the history of the congress.

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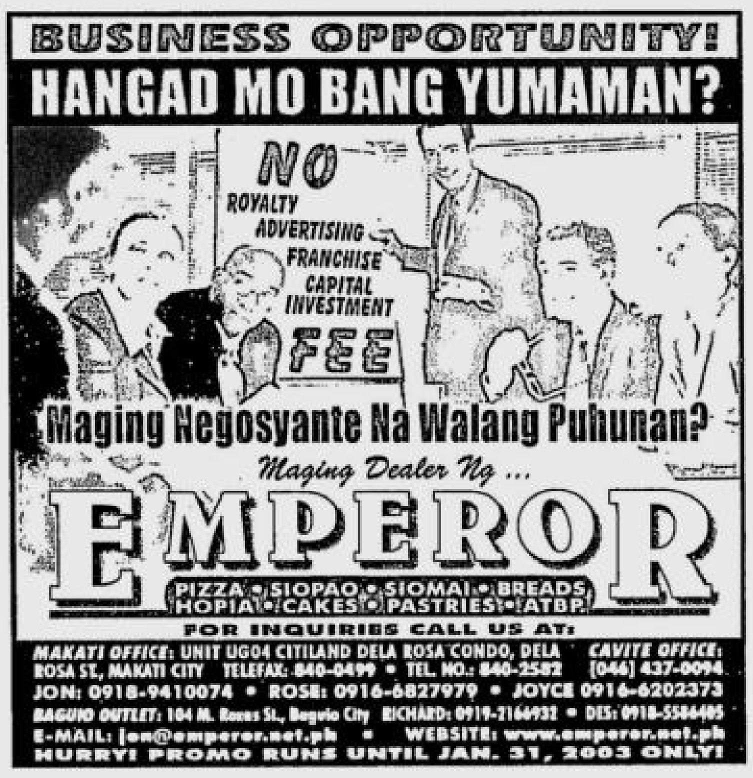

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# Japanese kidnapped in Surigao Sur

UNIDENTIFIED gunmen have kidnapped a Japanese man in Surigao del Sur, police said yesterday.

Hazumitsu Hashiba, 48, was seized late Wednesday by about five masked abductors from the house of his Filipino wife in the remote coastal town of Lanuza, police Senior Supt. Juliano Delacona said.

Hashiba, a Tokyo resident who arrived in the Philippines two months ago to visit his wife, was taken away in his car.

Delacona said police recovered the abandoned vehicle on Thursday in Surigao del Norte. He said no one has claimed responsibility and no ransom has been demanded.

Neighbors alerted police because Hashiba's wife was apparently afraid to contact authorities after the abductors threatened to harm her husband, Delacona said. The wife was being questioned Saturday.

Christians and foreigners have been targeted for kidnapping in other parts of Mindanao, but this was the first time a foreigner has been abducted in Surigao del Sur province, Delacona said. *AP*

# US asks UN to freeze assets of 'Manila bomber'

WASHINGTON—The United States is asking all members of the United Nations to freeze the assets of two leaders of a designated terror group with close ties to the al-Qaida network that was blamed for the October bombings in Indonesia that killed 192 people.

Riduan Isamuddin, known also as Hambali, is a senior leader of Jemaah Islamiah, who currently is in hiding and has a "long track record of involvement in terrorist activities," the State Department said Friday. The other Jemaah Islamiah leader added to the government's terrorist financing list is Mohammed Iqbal Abdurrahman, or Abu Jibril, currently detained in Malaysia.

Hambali has been accused of planning a series of bombings in Manila, that killed 22 people and injured more than 100 in December 2000, the State Department said.

Isamuddin was considered the group's director of operations, the primary link to al-Qaida, before he went into hiding and was replaced by Ali Gufron, alias Mukhlas, whose brother was among 15 people under arrest on charges they carried out the Oct. 12 bombings on the resort island of Bali.

Abu Jibril, a close associate, was Jemaah Islamiah's primary recruiter and second in command before he was arrested in June 2001 in Malaysia, the department said. Both Abu Jibril and Hambali are Indonesians.

The State Department designated Jemaah Islamiah was designated as a terrorist group by the United States last October.

The two men are being added to a US terrorist list that now contains more than 200 people and organizations suspected of financially supporting terrorist activities. *AP*

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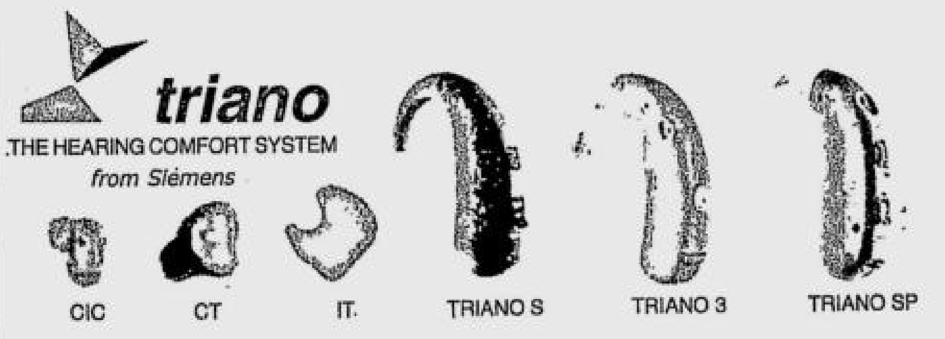

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# Court acquits hubby in wife kidnap case

**By Jerome Aning**

EIGHT years after the mysterious disappearance of his millionaire wife, restaurateur Rafael Engle was acquitted by a Manila judge of masterminding her abduction.

On Friday, Judge Reynaldo Alhambra of Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 53 said the prosecution's evidence was insufficient to prove Engle's guilt.

He said the couple's stormy marital relationship was "not sufficient for anyone to conclude that Rafael was the mastermind of the alleged kidnapping."

The victim, Daisy Mañalac Engle, disappeared under mysterious circumstances at around 3:30 p.m. on Aug. 10, 1995. She has yet to surface.

Daisy was last seen by Joel Niegas and David Nonato, doorman and cook, respectively, of the Rhythm of the Night club on M. Adriatico St., Malate, one of the businesses the Engles owned.

A state witness, Joseph Lim, told the court he and his accomplices in a drug syndicate had come to Manila from Samar to sell drugs when they were contacted by Rafael. He said they were paid P100,000 to abduct Daisy.

Lim said members of the gang who were in a Mitsubishi L300 van caught up with Daisy and boarded her car along Taft Ave. He said they divided up the money when they stopped for gasoline along the North Luzon Expressway.

On Aug. 12, policemen arrested Lim in Aritao, Nueva Ecija, for defying a checkpoint and not paying the gas bill.

The suspect was turned over to the National Bureau of Investigation, which was probing Daisy's disappearance.

Daisy's car, a Honda Accord, was found in Tuguegarao City, in the second week of September. Her wallet was found by a truck driver in Caranglan, Nueva Ecija.

A policeman, SPO2 Renato Borela, told the court that Daisy had been asking for police protection since June. Daisy had reported that Rafael beat her up whenever they had an argument about his womanizing.

**RAFAEL ENGLE: Wife Daisy still missing** PDI PHOTO

For its part, the defense claimed that what happened to Daisy was a voluntary disappearance.

Belinda Cuevas, nanny of the Engles' two children, said Daisy told her on Aug. 10 to take care of the children as she was going away.

Cuevas said Daisy called her on Jan. 26, 1996 to greet one of the children on his birthday.

In his defense, Rafael told the court that he and Daisy quarreled after he learned that Daisy had deposited P10 million he had entrusted to her in their children's account.

He said the money was for the construction of a building on J. Nakpil St., Malate.

He said Daisy surprised him when she asked for a separation. He had their house phone tapped and he heard amorous conversations between Daisy and one of his friends, he said.

He claimed Daisy and her lover plotted to kill him, per a phone conversation he heard on Jan. 15, 1995.

Rafael, who owned at least 10 restaurant and entertainment establishments, said he signed the separation agreement in February.

He said he last saw Daisy when she and one of their sons came to him on Aug. 5 or 6 to ask for money for school expenses and clothes.

Rafael said he learned about Daisy's disappearance on Aug. 12 and reported it to the police two days later.

He said he was contacted by Daisy by pager thrice. He said he was told to call a land line where a man said Daisy wanted to meet with him. The scheduled meeting did not push through.

Rafael was arrested by the NBI on Oct. 2, 1995. He claimed he was framed by the bureau in connivance with some media men.

In his 14-page decision, Judge Alhambra said he found inconsistencies in the testimony of the star witness Lim.

It was established that Lim had stolen a Mitsubishi van from his employer in Parañaque City. Lim said it was the one they used to abduct Engle.

The judge said the van, whose theft was reported, could not have been out in the open for long without being noticed by the authorities.

He said the prosecution also never substantiated Lim's claim that he was part of a drug trafficking syndicate.

Thirdly, the judge noted inconsistencies in the dates Lim provided. The kidnapping, as claimed by Lim, occurred a day after the date testified to by other witnesses.

# *Terror top agenda in Asean-EU meeting*

JAKARTA—Terrorism will top the agenda when foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian nations meet next week in Brussels with their European Union counterparts, officials said Saturday.

The two groups are expected to sign a joint anti-terrorism declaration during their two-day ministerial meeting on Jan. 27 and 28, Asean said in a statement. The agreement aims to strengthen law enforcement cooperation between the two bodies.

A possible free trade agreement between the two groups and conditions under Burma's military junta will also be discussed at the meeting, the statement said.

"In combating terrorism, we're dealing with a great uncertainty and the unknown. We want to see the affirmation by everybody concerned that we will work together," Asean Secretary General Ong Keng Yong said in the statement.

Asean signed an anti-terrorism agreement with the United States in August.

The agreement called for the countries of Asean—Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Burma, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam—to share information with the United States, improve police cooperation and plug holes that extremists can exploit.

The meeting will also focus on increasing trade between Europe and Southeast Asia by exploring the possibility of an Asean free trade agreement with the 15-member EU," Ong said. He said he hopes the talks can find ways of attracting European investors who are increasingly channeling investment and trade toward China instead of Southeast Asia.

A free trade agreement "between Asean and EU will of course be a bonus for us but it might be premature at this point," Ong said. "It's an idea that we want to work toward, since each (country in Asean) has a substantial relationship with the EU."

Burma will also be on the agenda, Ong said in the statement, without giving further details. An Asean member since 1997, Burma has been under military rule since 1962 and the target of EU sanctions.

The EU banned all non-humanitarian trade with Burma after the junta refused to honor the results of general elections won by opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi's political party in 1990. The military regime has been holding reconciliation talks with the opposition since late 2000, but no real progress has been made. *AP*

# Kidnapped girl thought she was just on vacation

**By Edwin O. Fernandez**
*PDI Mindanao Bureau*

COTABATO CITY—Throughout her two-week captivity, a 13-year-old Cagayan de Oro City girl was unaware that she had been kidnapped and was being ransomed by her family.

"We knew them and they invited me out since my parents were out of town," said the victim of her captors, after she was reunited with her parents on Friday evening.

The girl said the prime suspect in the kidnapping, David Ampatuan (not Abdullah as previously reported), was a family friend.

Brig. Gen. Generoso Senga, commander of the Army's 6th Infantry Division based in Maguindanao, said Ampatuan belonged to the Pentagon kidnap gang.

"We were friends back in Cagayan. They did not tell me they were kidnapping me," the girl told reporters at 6th ID headquarters where she was taken after being rescued earlier in the day.

The teener, a freshman high school student at the Don Mariano Canoy College in Cagayan de Oro City, said that on Jan. 8, Ampatuan and his wife Sheena came to the school in her family's own car and told her she had no classes because the teacher was absent.

She said she did not doubt the Ampatuans, being long-time family friends.

Even when David was driving the car out of Cagayan de Oro, the girl said, she did not suspect that anything was wrong. She even slept in the car.

When she woke up, she said, she found herself in a strange place but the couple assured her she would be home in no time.

She said she was taken to a hut where there were other people.

The girl said she was not harmed although at times David would tell her to cry as if she was in pain while holding a mobile phone in front of her.

"I was not harmed. They fed me every day fried or boiled eggs, breakfast, lunch and supper," she recalled.

The girl said she was never nervous about the Ampatuans and their companions. "I just played while the people around me appeared to be busy," she said.

On Friday morning, government agents raided the house she was being held in at Pascual Subdivision here and rescued the girl, who even asked the lawmen what was going on.

During the raid, David was arrested along with two other suspects identified as sisters Jamea, 26, and Baimanot Usman, 18, both of Tamontaka village here. Seven other gang members managed to escape, however.

The girl's father said Ampatuan was asking for P3 million for his daughter's freedom.

The amount was lowered and a payoff was scheduled in Kabacan, North Cotabato, but this did not push through, the father said.

He said he did not pay the kidnappers anything although he ended up shelling out some P70,000 for cell cards to communicate with the kidnappers.

He confirmed that David was a neighbor in Cagayan de Oro.

"He and his companions befriended us to the point that sometimes we would invite them over for a meal. He (also) had a credit line in our store. My daughter even addressed him as *kuya*," he said.

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# 2 snatched outside Cagayan de Oro mall rescued by military in Lanao Sur

**By Grace C. Albasin**
*PDI Mindanao Bureau*

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Barely a day after a 13-year-old kidnap victim from this city was recovered in Cotabato City, the military rescued three persons being held hostage in Lumbayanague town in Lanao del Sur.

Two of the victims had been snatched outside the Gaisano Mall here on Jan. 14. The third victim, a 12-year-old girl, had been in captivity since October 2002 and was turned into a sex slave by her abductors.

Arlu Dia, 25, of Butuan City, recounted how he and a friend Roger Alvar, 26, of Mangagoy, Bislig City, were about to go home from the mall when a man came up from behind and poked a gun at them.

He said the man told them to board a taxi which was parked in front of the mall entrance.

"I felt the gun and without question, Roger and I followed their orders. I thought it was some kind of joke," Dia said.

He said he only got scared when he saw the man's companion in the taxi brandish a long firearm. The two were taken to Marawi City.

Alvar, a graduate of the Mindanao State University in Marawi City, could understand Maranao, the dialect spoken by their abductors.

"I told Roger to listen and tell me what they were talking about so we could anticipate their moves. For the next 10 days, we learned that they only wanted money," Dia said.

He said the armed men had demanded a ransom of P500,000 from his mother.

Col. Alex Capina, 30th Infantry Battalion commanding officer based in Butig, Lanao del Sur, told the Inquirer the military only learned about the kidnapping after intelligence officers heard about two men being held in Lumbayanague, which is some 40 km from Marawi.

"No one came to us for help. I was so thankful the community helped a lot, the information we gathered led us to the victims," Capina said.

He identified the kidnappers as Rebo Garwan, Bin Usman Ladin and a Commander Pla Jack Moro.

Capina said the military had sent personnel from the 29th and 30th Infantry Battalions to rescue the victims but the kidnappers decided to release them after negotiating with Lanao del Sur chief security officer Datu Akira Alonto and Lumbayanague Mayor Salamona Asum.

Asum told the INQUIRER they paid P10,000 in board and lodging for the release of the two.

The girl who was turned into a sex slave by her captors had been abused, according to the military.

"Our doctor confirmed that the girl was raped," said Maj. Johnny Macanas, 4th Infantry Division spokesperson.

Macanas said the girl will be turned over to the Department of Social Welfare and Development because she is suffering from trauma.

The girl, left in the care of her grandfather here after her father died and her mother remarried, was first thought to have run away.

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# Loren mobilizing 1M volunteers

**By Gerald G. Lacuarta**

SENATE Majority Leader Loren Legarda appears to be laying the foundation for her political machinery in 2004 as she announced a plan to mobilize one million volunteers for her four-year-old urban forestry program.

Legarda said each of the one million so-callled "Green Crusaders" of the Luntiang Pilipinas program will take care of his or her own forest park, to be planted with 100 trees, for at least two to three years.

According to Legarda, the Luntiang Pilipinas has planted over a million trees nationwide and put up thousands of forest parks four years since it was established.

"It dawned on me, however, that in order for Luntiang Pilipinas to create an impact and make a difference on the environment, the project must have the support of a critical mass," Legarda said.

"I've decided therefore to take a quantum leap and mobilize one million green crusaders who each will commit his or her own forest park," she added.

Legarda's staff brushed aside speculations that the mobilization of one million volunteers was part of the senator's preparations for a reported presidential or vice presidential bid in 2004.

Legarda, former popular TV news anchor and host, has consistently ranked high in recent surveys of so-called "presidentiables" and vice presidential contenders in the 2004 elections.

Luntiang Pilipinas billboards along major highways carry not only environmental messages but Legarda's name as well, making the project a viable campaign vehicle.

The Luntiang Pilipinas also allows Legarda to visit different parts of the country since, as chair of the organization, she officiates tree-planting ceremonies in the forest parks.

Although Legarda belongs to the administration coalitions, observers said she needs her own political mass base to fall back on.

Membership in Luntiang Pilipinas has also been made attractive, as volunteers are issued a so-called "Green Card" that not only serves as a membership and identification card but also entitles the bearer to discounts, medical services, and free subscription to a newsletter featuring Legarda's activities.

# Imelda wants to be excused from hearings

IMELDA Marcos, widow of the late deposed dictator Ferdinand Marcos, said in a court motion Saturday that threats had been made against her life and the lives of her family.

In the motion to a local anti-graft court, the Marcos widow said there had been "recurring threats to her life and (the lives) of her family." She asked that she not be compelled to attend court proceedings this month into charges of graft against her "in view of various death threats (she) and her family have been receiving lately." The motion did not say who was making the threats or how the Marcos widow learned about them.

Marcos, who is facing numerous graft charges, had previously received permission from the court to seek medical treatment abroad this month but did not proceed with the trip because of the alleged threats.

The Marcos clan fled to exile in Hawaii in 1986 after a bloodless, military-backed popular revolt ended Ferdinand Marcos's 20-year rule.

After the former leader died in Honolulu in 1989, his widow and the rest of the family trickled back into the Philippines as the successor government mounted a worldwide hunt and litigation to reclaim up to $10 billion in assets that the family allegedly siphoned off from state coffers.

Despite the graft claims, the Marcos family has regained a measure of political stature with some of them being elected to congress or governorships.

Imelda Marcos, a former beauty queen, has gained international notoriety for her extensive footwear collection. *AFP*

# Joma faces raps over Aguinaldo killing

**By TJ Burgonio**

SISON: Charges approved by Cabinet

TOP Communist leader Jose Ma. Sison will be charged with the killing of a former congressman and two police officers in 2001 and 2002, respectively.

Local Government Secretary Jose Lina said yesterday police will file separate charges of murder against Sison before local courts tomorrow for the killing of Rep. Rodolfo Aguinaldo in Cagayan on June 12, 2001 and Supt. Cesar Santander and PO1 Nestor Santiago of the Lopez, Quezon police station in late 2002.

"We have found probable cause that he was involved in the killings," Lina said of Sison at a press briefing, noting that the justice department had recommended the filing of charges against the communist leader during a Cabinet oversight committee meeting last week.

Aguinaldo's assassination and the raid on the Lopez police station came on the heels of Sison's instruction to communist rebels to intensify their attacks against the government and its facilities, Lina said.

Aguinaldo was gunned down by three suspected New People's Army gunmen identified as Felix Lobregado, Iner Bulosan and Gerald Mendoza. The three have been arrested and charged. The NPA is the armed force of the Communist Party of the Philippines which Sison co-founded.

The assassination was one of the catalysts that drove the government to suspend peace talks with the National Democratic Front, the political arm of the CPP.

Lina said the filing of charges against Sison would not affect future peace negotiations with the NDF, on whose peace panel he sits as a member.

"If we go soft on these individuals, the government will be put at a great disadvantage. They will not stop assassinating, burning cell sites and extorting money from individuals," Lina said.

"No one is exempt from accountability for his crimes," he added.

When asked why the police decided to take legal action only now, Lina said the justice department made the recommendation to charge Sison with the killings only last week following months of building the cases against him.

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# Widow asks military, Left to get Kintanar killers

By Alcuin Papa

ROMULO Kintanar's widow has "no idea" who might have masterminded and carried out his murder.

Speaking on Friday at the wake for her husband, Ma. Gloria "Joy" Asuncion said the threat to his life had been so constant—"coming from the Left, the reactionary forces and the military"—that "he took it as normal."

She appealed to "our common friends in the military and the Left to help us shed light" on his murder and "give justice" to the man she described as "a very loving husband and a good father."

"The perpetrators must be made to answer for this dastardly crime," Joy said.

Police and military officials were quick to say that Kintanar's former comrades in the New People's Army pulled off the Thursday ambush at the Kamameshi Restaurant in Quezon City.

### Strong presence

For now, the family that Kintanar left behind can only muse on the time they spent together.

"He was a strong presence at home," Joy said. "He commanded authority, and you couldn't help but love and respect him in the same way his comrades did."

Joyet, 23, Joy's daughter by her first husband, the late activist Edgar Jopson, described Kintanar as "a good provider."

"He was very nice, and he had his own way of showing us that he cared," Joyet said. "He was really good to our helpers and the small people. He sent our helpers' children to school."

Joyet also recalled that Kintanar "always let us make our decisions," even in affairs of the heart. "But he'd tease you," she said, smiling.

In all, Kintanar was father to 10-year-old Gabriel, his son with Joy, and to Joyet, Nonoy and Riza, Joy's children with Jopson.

He liked "tinkering" with cell phones and the latest in electronic gadgets, Joyet said. But occasionally, they would sit down and talk politics.

"In the past, I was thinking of seeking public office and he was very supportive," she said. "He told me we need new leaders who are good."

But Joyet has shelved her plans of public service for the moment and is now in the IT industry.

### Optimism

Joy said that prior to his death, Kintanar was "very optimistic about the future."

"He thought the people now are more politicized and are analyzing the situation better, that we have learned from our experiences. He was optimistic history would teach us," she said, adding:

"His struggle was not lost completely. He belonged to the armed struggle for 25 years, and then to the unarmed struggle. He believed that talking about things would bring about what he always worked for, that a lot of things could be done through dialogue."

Cebu Rep. Simeon Kintanar, a cousin of the ex-rebel, described him as a "generous man" who would "go out of his way to help his former comrades."

The congressman last saw Kintanar Saturday last week in Cebu, where they had lunch and talked politics.

"He looked very relaxed, and we also talked about livelihood programs in my district," the lawmaker said. "He showed genuine determination to help the poor."

He said it was Kintanar who convinced him to seek a seat in Congress.

"I also urged him to join politics, but he didn't seem to like the idea," the lawmaker said.

Pepe Sarmiento, a family friend, was to have met with Kintanar in Makati at 2 p.m. on the day he was killed.

"He was a kind man and he would never say no to whoever asked his help," Sarmiento told the INQUIRER. "It's too bad he's gone."

According to Sarmiento, Kintanar was looking for ways to provide livelihood projects for ex-rebels, "and then retire." *(See story on Page A1.)*

"He wanted to help people who had turned themselves in to make the transition to civilian life," Sarmiento said. "Making a living is not easy for these people, and he wanted to help them rebuild their lives and families."

"Still," Sarmiento added, "he led a full life and did not die in vain."

Kintanar's remains will be cremated, according to his wishes, tentatively on Wednesday.

## *This director is part of film on Rolly's life*

By Leah Salterio

BEFORE he was killed, Romulo "Rolly" Kintanar was discussing the possibility of turning his life story into an action-drama with Phillip Salvador, Ace Vergel, or Bong Revilla Jr. playing him.

During Kintanar's last meal at a Japanese restaurant, action director Willy Milan was seated beside him and negotiating for the rights to a film bio. "That was only the second time I met Rolly. What happened was really unfortunate. But now, his story will even be more colorful and interesting," Milan told the INQUIRER Friday.

Milan was introduced to Kintanar in December by a certain Ruel, whom the director met through Azor Sitchon, a former mayor of San Simon, Pampanga.

"Rolly initially refused to have his life story filmed," Milan said. "But I didn't give up. I wanted us to become friends. On Christmas Day and New Year's Day, I called him up on his cell phone just to greet him. I believe he was in the Visayas at that time. He was very nice. I don't know anything about his enemies."

On their second—and last—meeting, Milan said Kintanar was already receptive to the idea of a movie about his life.

"To show my appreciation, I footed the bill [for our lunch]," he said. "While we were eating, Rolly even offered me sashimi and put rice on my bowl."

Milan said he was seated to Kintanar's left at a rectangular table at the corner of the restaurant. To Kintanar's right was his friend Ruel.

At around 1:30 p.m., Milan said, someone fired at Kintanar from about 15 feet away.

"I was facing the killer and after the first two shots, my instinct was to turn around and take cover under the table behind me," Milan said. "If you were in my place, you would really fear for your life. I thank the Lord for saving me."

He said he heard Kintanar cursing after the first two shots.

"The impact of a .45-cal. gun is very strong," he said. "Rolly fell after the second shot. I didn't see anymore what happened after that."

Milan said he would pursue the filming of Kintanar's life story and secure the rights from the widow.

"[The story] will even be more colorful this time," he said. "I'm just wondering why I have to be in the ending."

# Maganto taps . . .

From page A1

squad's "safe houses."

"We'll strike right at the heart of their operations," he said, adding that while he had not been given a deadline, he wanted to neutralize the assassins "as soon as possible."

### Gov't provocation

At the same time, Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo warned yesterday that the government might be provoking a war with the Left since any act of revenge by the "rejectionists" of the Communist Party of the Philippines would involve the government.

This is because the Philippine National Police has an existing "agreement" with the urban hit squad Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade (RPA-ABB), Ocampo said.

He raised this point in reaction to a statement by PNP intelligence chief Supt. Robert Delfin that the rejectionists (RJs) who broke from the leadership of CPP founding chair Jose Ma. Sison might avenge the killing of Kintanar, himself an "RJ."

Delfin said in an earlier interview that it was possible for the RJs to "take revenge against the killers, which is not good because it will be a problem for the PNP."

Delfin had added that the government peace panel should convince this group against taking such action.

But Ocampo said: "If Delfin is saying that the RJs will take revenge, [the PNP] will have a hand in that because the RPA-ABB [members] are their men now. The RPA-ABB will thus be acting with expressed authority from the PNP."

Ocampo said it was widely reported in December 2000 that the RPA-ABB had met with then President Joseph Estrada and his police chief, now Sen. Panfilo Lacson, at the Mansion House in Baguio City to seal an agreement under which the hit squad would "assist" the PNP in enforcing peace and order.

He said Delfin and Sr. Supt. Rodolfo "Boogie" Mendoza, now PNP commander for Tarlac, were also involved in the agreement negotiated by Nilo de la Cruz, Arturo Tabara and RPA-ABB national commander Lualhati Carapali.

He said the RPA-ABB members were "not exactly like Cafgus [militia men], but they have become an adjunct of the PNP."

Delfin said the police could provide security for former rebel leaders if requested.

"But I think they will be better secured if they're left alone," he said.

### 48 hours

Police and military officials had earlier warned of more killings by the CPP's armed wing, the New People's Army, which they said was behind Kintanar's murder. Delfin had reported that the NPA had fielded a hit squad in Metro Manila as early as last year to go after prominent government officials.

Yesterday, a well placed police source said the NPA hit squad supposedly on the loose had planned to conduct "a series of liquidations" against ex-rebel leaders within 48 hours of Kintanar's assassination on Thursday.

"That's the intelligence report that we received," the source said. "We can't tell if they will implement that."

The military said it had not received such a report. But in an ambush interview at Camp Aguinaldo, PNP chief Director General Hermogenes Ebdane hinted that the report might be true.

"In fact, they have been eyeing targets," Ebdane said. "Even before [Kintanar's] killing, they were monitored to be around, and perhaps some of them might even be known to their comrades."

Speaking at the Philippine Military Academy Alumni Association's annual meeting in Camp Aguinaldo, President Macapagal gave the PNP "blanket authority" to track down Kintanar's killers.

On Friday, Ms Macapagal ordered the formation of a task force to get the assassins, and named Maganto as its chief, with Delfin and Mendoza as members.

With the blanket authority given by the President, Ebdane said the PNP would "exhaust all means to account for the killers, file a case against them in court, or waste them if they opt to fight it out."

"We have the teams in place. It's just a matter of reorienting them," he said when asked if he saw the need to increase the number of operatives hunting down Kintanar's killers.

### 100 gunmen

Ocampo said that under the agreement with the PNP, 100 RPA-ABB members were allowed to keep their firearms and were issued licenses to carry these in their supposed mission to help the PNP.

He said the RPA-ABB even maintained training camps in Tanay and Negros and were promised P500 million for their socio-economic projects. He said he did not know the status of the P500-million financing.

Ocampo also dismissed as imaginary Delfin's report that a "National Special Operations Group" of the NPA was out to kill Cabinet members and other high-profile targets.

"That is not the method of the CPP/NPA," said Ocampo, a former spokesperson of the CPP's political arm, the National Democratic Front. "Destabilization of the government, from the point of view of the revolutionary movement, comes from the inability of the government to function because of its own weaknesses and failure of policy."

He said Delfin's report had no basis in fact because the CPP/NPA had not reversed its tactic of waging war in the countryside and not in the cities.

Ocampo said some members of the police and military were capitalizing on Kintanar's killing.

"I think the police-military agency led by Delfin is on the warpath again," he said, adding that "they want to create hysteria" to justify strong-arm measures against government critics.

In a statement, Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. expressed hope that the killing of Kintanar would not set back "current efforts to re-launch the peace process" with the NDF.

He called for "a speedy and judicious investigation," and urged the PNP to pursue Kintanar's killers.

Kintanar, a former NPA chief, served in De Venecia's campaign for the presidency.

# Gloria OKs peace draft

From page A1

agreement.

"If they decide not to accept it, then they are not serious about having a peaceful resolution of this conflict," Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes said in an ambush interview in Camp Aguinaldo.

He added: "This is giving peace a chance."

Director General Hermogenes Ebdane, chief of the Philippine National Police, echoed Reyes' view. "If they accept that, well and good. If not, that's their problem," he told reporters.

### Offensives continue

Reyes said it would be up to the government peace panel to present the draft to the communist panel.

Pending the presentation of the draft, military offensives against the New People's Army rebels in the countryside would continue, he said. "She (President Macapagal) said that we have a military approach, and that will continue," he said.

In her speech, the President reiterated that she has empowered a special police task force to use "all available means in the country's democratic arsenal" to hunt down Kintanar's killers and neutralize urban guerrilla hit squads believed operating in Metro Manila.

Kintanar, who broke ties with Sison in the early '90s due to ideological differences, was gunned down in a restaurant in Quezon City on Thursday.

He was helping in the government's peace talks with a breakaway communist armed group at the time of his death.

"We would not allow the murder and intimidation of former rebels who have come back to the folds and helped us in our peace and development program," Ms Macapagal said.

### Counter force

"Threats will not work and shall be answered by counter force."

But she added the government would "not strike out indiscriminately."

"We shall take down the most incorrigible terrorist, but we shall be mindful, as Rolly Kintanar was in life, of the imperative of peace," she said.

PROPOSED peace agreement held by the President is no longer confidential but signals the resumption of formal peace talks between the government and the communists. EDWIN BACASMAS

Asked on the supposed presence of communist hit squads to undertake assassinations on government officials and other "high-impact" targets as claimed by the police and the military, Sison, also the NDF's chief political consultant, declined to categorically answer the question.

"The NDF negotiating panel and its consultants like me are in no position to know the answers to your question," he told the INQUIRER.

"But personally, I think that the regime and its psywar experts are wrong in trying to picture the New People's Army as being irresponsible, malicious and brutal as the human rights violators that abound in the military, police and paramiltary forces of the regime," Sison said.

### 'Illusion of turmoil'

However, he noted that Defense Reyes had been allegedly talking about hit squads and hit lists for some weeks now.

"It is possible that under the direction of the CIA (US-Central Intelligence Agency), there are special units of the military and police carrying out killings of known renegades to the revolutionary cause," Sison said.

He explained that this could be "in order to pave the way for an all-out physical attack on the national democratic movement and generate the illusion or real condition of turmoil for projecting someone like General Angelo Reyes to become the successor of Macapagal-Arroyo." *With a report from TJ Burgonio*

# Ex-rebs' livelihood was Rolly's vision

From page A1

The former NPA chief supposedly even wrote in his own hand the draft of a solicitation letter to be sent to various non-government organizations as well as the Department of Social Welfare and Development.

Among those considered as donors was the Jesuit Volunteers of the Philippines, a foundation based at the Ateneo de Manila.

Jo, who disclosed having met with Kintanar for the last time mid-December in Quezon City, said the group and their adviser were to have visited San Miguel on Jan. 17 for an ocular inspection of possible school sites.

They were particularly considering Sitio Sibul, where the residents were trained in organic farming around August last year.

But that visit was rescheduled for next month. And Jo did not dismiss the possibility that had it pushed through, the trip to Bulacan could have allowed Kintanar's killers to ambush him days earlier, if indeed his enemies had been monitoring his movements.

But despite Kintanar's death his comrades in the venture are forging ahead.

"What we were about to undertake stemmed from the reasons he left [the rebel movement]," Jo said. "We will continue this for him."

# 'Tis the season to kiss even Siamese twins

From page A1

Opposition Sen. Aquilino Pimentel pulled off a variation of this routine when he dragged two six-month-old Siamese twins to a media forum in Quezon City yesterday.

Pimentel used the weekly Kapihan sa Sulo Hotel to help raise money for an operation to separate the siblings Leah Grace and Rachel Sunset Lawel of Tabuk, Kalinga.

Actually, even before Pimentel staged yesterday's media event, President Macapagal-Arroyo had gotten to the twins first.

In July, soon after the Lawel twins' birth, the President ordered her aides to release funds for their medical needs.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development in Kalinga has a established a "Project Lawel Twins" fund-raiser through the Land Bank of the Philippines.

At the forum, the senator said the twins' mother Marietta, 24, had approached his office for help, and that he thought taking the family to the forum would give them "more exposure" and put them in touch with potential donors.

As it happened, the exposure would not be for the twins' benefit only.

Basking in the limelight with Pimentel were fellow politicians who were guests at the forum—former senator Francisco Tatad and Rep. Constantino Jaraula of Cagayan de Oro.

As media cameras rolled and clicked away, Jaraula took out P1,000 from his pocket and gave it to Marietta.

Not to be outdone, Tatad wrote something on a piece of paper and handed it over.

The twins are the first-born children of a farming couple who are both jobless.

An aunt said the babies have only just recovered from a bout of pneumonia last week.

### P200,000 needed

The twins were born on July 1, 2002 at the Kalinga Provincial Hospital in Tabuk. They each weighed only 4.52 kgs when they were delivered by caesarean section.

The twins are connected at the chest and abdomen. The aunt said they share an umbilical cord and their livers are lying one on top of the other.

Doctors have said, however, that the chances of an operation to separate the twins are good as their vital organs are not linked and are functioning independently.

According to Pimentel, the procedure to separate the twins would cost about P200,000, not including post-operation expenses.

But the operation will have to wait until after the twins' first birthday.

# Lina sues QC judge for clearing 7 in P2-B 'shabu' case

## *Dismissal of case 'grossly, patently, deliberately and maliciously illegal'*

**PRESIDENT** Macapagal, holding a packet of "shabu," touted the drug bust as proof of her administration's serious campaign against illegal drugs. Behind the President are Interior Secretary Jose Lina and PNP chief Director General Hermogenes Ebdane, Jr.

MALACAÑANG PHOTO

**By Michael Lim Ubac**

INTERIOR Secretary Jose Lina Jr. yesterday filed an administrative case against a Quezon City judge who exonerated seven suspected Chinese drug traffickers nabbed during a raid on a narcotics laboratory in July last year.

The raid, which yielded P2 billion worth of methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu, shabu ingredients and paraphernalia, was cited by President Macapagal-Arroyo as proof that her administration was serious in its anti-drug campaign.

Lina filed with the Supreme Court Office of the Court Administrator (OCA) an administrative case for gross ignorance of the law and procedure against Judge Emilio L. Leachon, presiding judge of QC regional trial court branch 224.

Lina claimed that Leachon should be held accountable for the release of the seven Chinese and the subsequent dismissal of the information filed against them.

He said he found it strange and "suspicious" that the judge dismissed the case "even without any motion filed by the accused."

"The *motu propio* (quashing) of the case is a no-no in our Rules of Court. Why Judge Leachon did this, we would like the SC to deeply look into," said Lina, acting chair of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.

He said he believed that the dismissal of the information for violation of the Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 was "grossly, patently, deliberately and maliciously illegal."

Lina claimed that Leachon's order caused undue injury to the government "thereby derailing its effort to clean the society of the drug menace."

Lina pointed out that Leachon's actions also caused alarm among authorities. "With this haul, the third biggest shabu laboratory discovered in 2002, it is indeed surprising, if not suspicious, why with a single stroke of a pen, based on erroneous, albeit doubtful, grounds, respondent Judge Leachon would quash the search warrants regularly issued by another co-equal court," said Lina.

**THE SEVEN** Chinese suspects try to hide their faces during their presentation to the media.

MALACAÑANG PHOTO

Lina identified the seven Chinese, all undocumented, as Jimmy Chua, Man Chuck Li, Willy Ang, Tom Chua, Lai Nar, Sam Li Chua and Sally Ong.

Three Filipinos—Concepcion Andohon, Jessilyn Lamosa, Sally Ong and Jamil Maranay—were also nabbed during the July 16, 2002 raid on the shabu laboratory located in Varsity Hills, Quezon City.

Operatives of the Regional Intelligence Service Office (Riso) of the Philippine National Police conducted the raid based on two search warrants issued by Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 7 Judge Enrico Lanzanas.

During the raid, Riso agents confiscated 40,584 grams of shabu, 949,772 grams of ephedrine and other precursors and equipment used in the manufacture of shabu with an estimated value of P89.1 million. The P2-billion estimate included the value of shabu and ephedrine.

On July 22, 2002; the PNP filed criminal charges for violation of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 (Republic Act 9165) with the QC RTC.

# Malacañang order dampens Comelec plans

**By Blanche S. Rivera**

THE MALACAÑANG order effectively dampened the plans of the Commission on Elections to use part of the P2.5 billion to fund the validation of voters' registration and electronic transmission.

Comelec chair Benjamin Abalos Sr. said in a press briefing on Friday that the Comelec would lease rather than buy counting machines so it could generate savings.

The savings would be used to buy data-capturing machines for nationwide validation and interface gadgets for electronic transmission.

Abalos issued an order early Friday that the terms of reference and specifications in the invitation to bid should specify that the poll body wanted to "lease the equipment with an option to purchase."

"Sham elections is what we will have in 2004 if the list is still padded," Abalos said.

He added that leasing counting machines would save the Comelec P400 million annually, which would have to be used for the storage of the machines after the polls.

The Comelec en banc has been insisting on the two modernization projects despite the absence of legal basis for the validation and electronic transmission.

RA 8436 mandates only the automation of polls, which the Comelec failed to do in 2001.

The en banc has issued two resolutions this month identifying a "three-pronged" modernized electoral system, but the commissioners could not say whether these would be superceded by the executive order.

The poll body has in fact already created oversight committees for the validation of registration and the electronic consolidation of votes.

Commissioner Luzvimida Tancangco would head the oversight committee on electronic transmission.

Abalos and the commissioners refused to comment on the executive order stipulating that the P2.5 billion should be used only for the automation of the elections.

Abalos has been seeking Congress approval to allow the Comelec to borrow from banks to fund the agency's other modernization programs.

He said that the House of Representatives has been sympathetic to the request but the Senate has refused to grant its permission.

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# DOJ files criminal charges vs Sino trader, 3 others for rice smuggling

**By Michael Lim Ubac**

THE JUSTICE department has filed smuggling and other criminal charges against a Bicol-based Chinese rice trader and three others in connection with the smuggling of 35,000 sacks of rice into Tabaco, Albay, in September 2001.

Charged at the Tabaco City court by the department's Task Force Anti-Smuggling were rice trader Antonio Chua Jr., Carlos Padilla, Peter Nicholas N. Toundjis II and Yushawu Awudu. Padilla is a rice importer and dealer for the National Food Authority.

Toundjis is the president of El Greco Ship Manning and Management Corp., while Awudu, a Ghanian national, was the ship captain of the vessel MV Neptune Breeze that was allegedly used in smuggling the rice.

All four were charged with falsification of official documents and violation of the Tariff and Customs Code (smuggling).

Chief State Prosecutor Jovencito Zuño had recommended a P120,000 bail bond for each of the accused in the smuggling charges. Toundjis II and Awudu were meted an additional P40,000 bail bond each for falsification of commercial documents.

Customs Commissioner Antonio Bernardo was the one who first filed the smuggling charges with the DOJ on Aug. 5, 2002.

Investigation showed that the smuggled rice was loaded in a ship docked at the port of Albay on Sept. 23, 2001.

It could not be ascertained where the smuggled rice had originated.

Zuño said documents had made it appear that the rice had been legally procured in the country.

The vessel, then named MV Criston, was seized and detained but escaped during a typhoon on Nov. 7, 2001.

Coast Guard officials later spotted and seized the vessel, which had been renamed MV Neptune Breeze to mislead authorities.

"The acts of the respondents Chua Jr., Carillo, Toundjis and Awudu are clearly for the purpose of concealing the fact that MV Neptune Breeze is the same vessel as MV Criston," said Zuño, who added that there was clearly a conspiracy among the respondents.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, who was with Bernardo when he filed the case at the DOJ, was irked when she learned that Albay Judge Arnulfo Cabredo had issued a temporary restraining order to stop the Bureau of Customs from seizing the vessel.

Ms Macapagal said the ship was able to flee because of the TRO.

"I don't know why there was suddenly a TRO against the customs bureau. The ship was able to escape as a result. We will not tolerate this. We will not be made to suffer for this kind of behavior," she said in Filipino.

Cabredo said, however, that the President had been misinformed about the case. He maintained that he did not commit any abuse of discretion when he allowed the accused to post a bond corresponding to the value of the rice shipment. He said the case was no longer in his chamber.

Chua Jr. has denied the charges against him. He said he had proposed naming the so-called "big four" individuals behind several illegal rice shipments and that this had led to the filing of the case against him.

Police chief Nilo Berdin said he was informed of Chua's plan to reveal all by his friends and relatives, but said it would be better if the information were to come out of Chua's mouth.

He said though he already knew of the "big four," including their names, Chua's revelations would be welcome.

Berdin said the "big four" referred to a local politician in Albay province, a real estate developer and two big businessmen.

'KOREAN NIGHTMARE'

# *POEA readies large-scale estafa raps vs recruiters*

THE PHILIPPINE Overseas Employment Administration is set to file charges of large scale and syndicated illegal recruitment against the recruiters of 41 Filipinos who were deported from South Korea Tuesday.

POEA Chief Rosalinda Baldoz said the agency has evidence to pin down Violeta Mendoza, executive director of Steven Films, Traudio Lopez, a film director, and Korean national Nam Hyun Woo.

The group allegedly lured the Filipinos into going to South Korea with the promise of casting them in a movie project and providing them permanent employment after the shooting is over.

The victims paid placement fees ranging from P75,000 to P200,000. They were told to pose as actors, cameramen, and technician for a movie project titled "Korean Dream."

# SC asked to resolve jail chief row now

A RANKING official and two jail officers of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology have appealed to Supreme Court Justice Hilario Davide to require the Court of Appeals to resolve immediately the dispute over the post of Jail chief. Supt. Renato Gacutan, Jail officers Enrique Ugay and Samuel Morales wrote the chief justice that the CA's 4th division can resolve the case by citing an earlier CA decision upholding the presidential appointee during the Estrada administration.

They pointed out that Sr. Supt. Josue G. Engaño was appointed BJMP chief by President Macapagal-Arroyo on Sept. 6, 2001. The appointment has not been recalled. Engaño's appointment was contested by Chief Supt. Arturo Alit before the Quezon City Regional Trial Court which ruled in his favor. Engaño elevated the case to the Court of Appeals.

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# OPINION

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## Enemies

**EDITORIALS**

THE 4TH World Meeting of Families, which ends today, attracted public notice in part because of its controversial advertising campaign. Drawing attention to the plight of battered wives and abused children, the commercials on radio and TV drove a simple message home: the family is under attack.

Simple, and true. The family as we know it is truly under siege. Contrary to the misimpression that the ads inadvertently created, however, the enemy is not domestic violence alone. Like all other social institutions, the family is under attack on all sides: not only by family abuse, which deforms, but also by rank poverty, which dehumanizes; by forced migration, which distances; by the attractions of individualism, which distorts traditional family values.

The historic international conference—the first ever in Asia—itself reflected this wider view. The speeches and workshops were exercises in integrated thinking, relating the past, present and future of the family to the economic, social and political pressures bearing on it.

In many ways, the country was the appropriate venue for the Vatican initiative.

At least 40 percent of all Filipinos live below the poverty line. Indeed, to use the word "live" may be to overstate the case, since many of the poor cannot be said to lead a fully human life. This is not to say that there are no exemplary families among the poor. (The example of the man whose inspired reforms 40 years ago opened the doors of the Roman Catholic Church to such modern initiatives as the World Meeting of Families, should suffice. Pope John XXIII, born Angelo Roncalli, grew up in an abysmally poor but thoroughly loving family. In today's language, his poverty can be described, accurately, as empowering.)

It is true, however, that conditions of poverty threaten the future of any family. A father laid off from his job, an overworked mother juggling laundry assignments to pay for the family's one meal of the day, children who cannot attend school because of farming "chores": these conditions tend to weaken family bonds, rather than strengthen them.

Poverty has led many Filipinos to try their luck abroad. To date, as many as seven million of our countrymen work overseas, as domestic helpers in Hong Kong and construction workers in the Middle East, as teachers in New York and nurses in Texas, as sailors aboard ships plying the world's seas and English-speaking governesses to a generation of expatriate children. The social costs of this economic migration, however, are only now being understood, in an unwanted accounting that tallies the costs in terms of absentee parents, sullen children, materialistic values. All too often, a house made of cement and filled with electronic appliances serves as a substitute for the absent, or the self-esteem of those left behind.

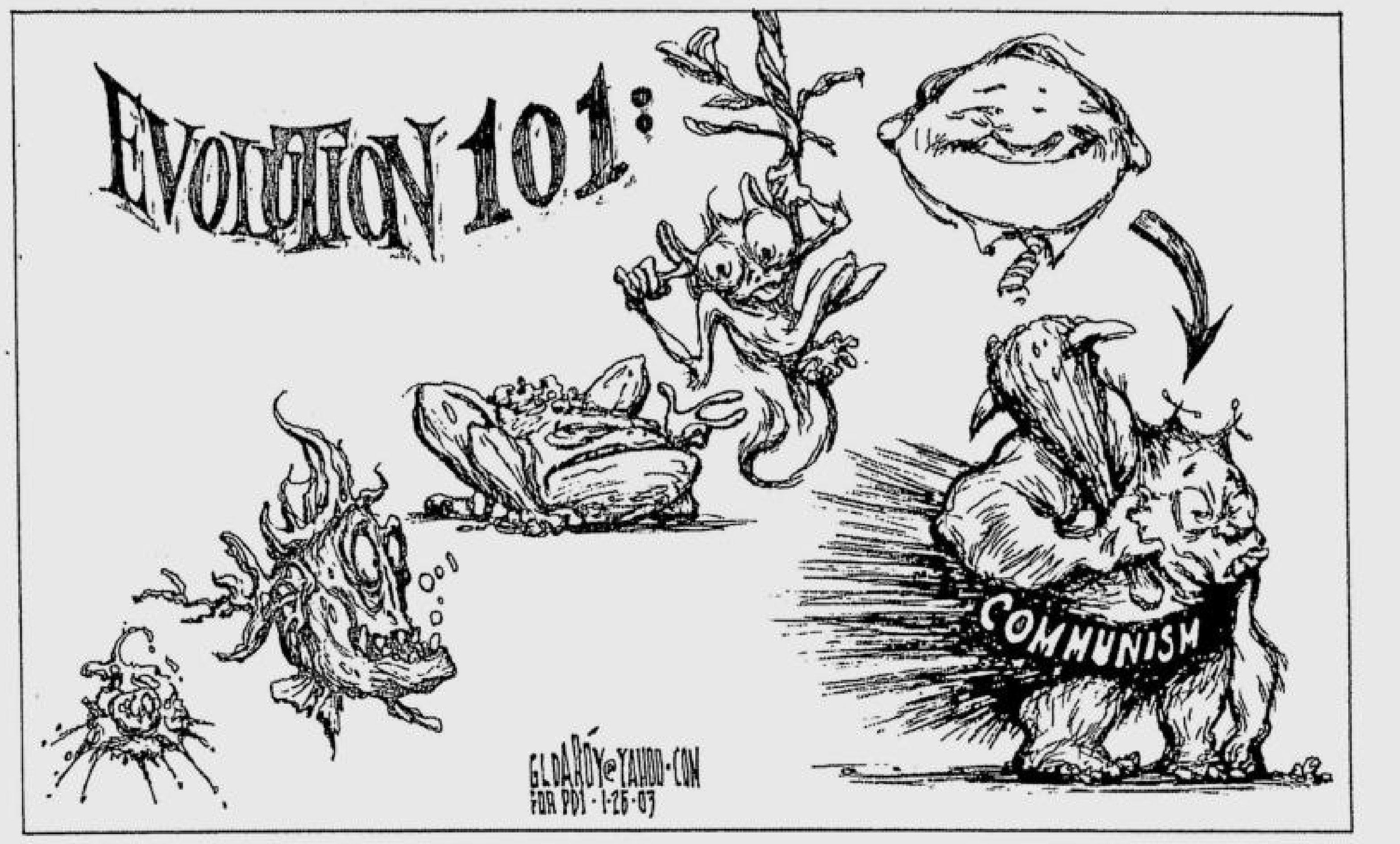
## Allies

THE ISSUE of population control has been used in sometimes subtle, sometimes obvious ways to drive an increasingly wide wedge between church and state.

This is unfortunate, because on the primary issue—the fate and future of the family—the government and the heavily influential Catholic Church see eye to eye. Both recognize the fundamental principle, enshrined in the Constitution and integrated into the marriage rite, that the family is the basic unit of society. And both see their greatest threat in a fatal distortion of the very concept of family.

The church sees the growing phenomenon of so-called alternative lifestyles as further eroding the ground on which the family is founded. Because Catholics believe that the family is the church in miniature—the domestic church, in theology—the world's bishops cannot but view the growth in same-sex relationships or non-religious marriages as an early taste of the Apocalypse. If the family is the seedbed of faith, then the rise of "alternative families" is nothing less than an attack on the wellsprings of faith itself.

The government, for its part, knows that the problems of graft and corruption, the issues of public-sector inefficiency and public apathy, are ultimately cultural. At bottom, they have to do with tradition and attitude: a tradition that rewards any behavior which puts family above country, an attitude that limits the scope of the common—and thus the meaning of the common good—to the natural boundaries of the family.



## Changing the Charter

**SEPARATE OPINION**

*Isagani A. Cruz*

I WAS the guest speaker at the joint celebration last year of Law Day by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and the Philippine Law Association. My subject was constitutional reforms. I said that periodic examination of the Charter was necessary to make it more conformable to the changing times besides correcting its shortcomings as revealed by instructive experience.

The Constitution is supposed to be a permanent mandate not easily changed by temporary passions and caprices like an ordinary statute. Its sovereign commands are not subject to legislative fickleness and public infatuations with transient issues and passing personalities. The Constitution is rightly described as "the imprisonment of the past and the embodiment of the future," and also, if I might add, the fulfillment of the present.

Yet, for all its relative untouchability, there is no doubt that it cannot remain a petrified document governing with its sacrosanct precepts adopted a hundred years ago a much altered society a hundred years later. "The race moves forward constantly," so it has been said, "and no Canute can stay its progress." The Constitution must remain a vibrant instrument that must adjust to the changes of a society that cannot stand still.

Justice Benjamin Cardozo of the US Supreme Court put it more eloquently in these memorable words that refuted his observation that law and literature should not mix: "The inn that shelters for the night is not the journey's end. The Constitution, like the traveler, must be ready for the morrow."

But when is the morrow? Is it the time for the pursuit of secret political agenda for the benefit of self-seeking leaders plotting another deception of the people in the name of the public welfare? Is this why they are saying that the morrow is now, when so many more important issues have to be addressed instead of the proposed Charter changes that may be made after the 2004 elections?

A good reason for suspecting their insistence is obvious. One of the suggestions is the extension of the term of all incumbent elective officials, from the President of the Philippines down to the local officials. If the proposal is approved, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo herself will remain in office until the changes contemplated become effective. To her credit, however, she is now in favor of revising the Constitution but only after the 2004 elections.

The proposed extension of terms will also benefit the incumbent members of Congress. All the legislators in the House of Representatives and one-half of the members of the Senate are supposed to end their terms on June 30, 2004. This will not happen, however, if the Constitution is earlier amended and they are allowed to remain in office for as long as the amendment shall allow.

As the extension will also be applied to the elective local officials whose terms will also expire in 2004, there is no question that they will also be in favor of proposing and ratifying the revision of the Constitution before the scheduled elections in 2004.

As planned, the new Constitution will provide that the incumbent elective officials shall continue in office until the election and qualification of the candidates elected at a future date after the election scheduled in 2004 under the present Charter. This period of the extension could be for one year or more or even 10 years if the delegates should be so brazen.

Of course, the proposed extension, no matter how long, will be ratified by the sheeplike people. All the members of Congress will campaign for its approval, as so will all the local elective officials, who will also enjoy the privilege without having to campaign for their reelection in 2004. Even the senators whose chamber is targeted for abolition in a parliamentary system will not object to their remaining in office without reelection before it is dissolved.

And speaking of the parliamentary system, therein lies another possible hardly concealed motivation. The current conjecture is that Speaker Jose de Venecia is vigorously arguing for the Charter change before 2004 because he expects to be the prime minister in case the parliamentary form of government is made to replace the present system. Running for prime minister will be easier for him than running for president, which he lost in 1998. He probably feels he has better prospects with his colleagues than with the electorate.

Without questioning the merits of the parliamentary system in theory, I feel that its actual application in this country will not correct the problems it is expected to solve. Vote buying has become part of our way of life and it can corrupt the election of the prime minister as it has corrupted the elections under the presidential system. This is another reason why we should carefully study the proposed conversion instead of rushing to approve it.

Let us not be hasty in revising our admittedly imperfect Constitution lest we be jumping from the frying pan into the fire. It is time we thought of the welfare of the nation instead of submitting once again to the schemes of politicians.

## Gone fishing

**MOMENTS**

*Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD*

THE STORY is told about a psychotherapist who was not getting any patients. Nobody was coming to his clinic. He soon found out the reason why: under his name was the sign PSYCHO THE RAPIST.

* * *

**The Gospel (Mk. 1, 14-20) today urges us all to become "fishers of men." We are all supposed to bring people closer to God, and God closer to the people. Have you brought anybody closer to God? Has anyone come closer to God because of you, your word, your personal witnessing? Are you knowingly or unknowingly blocking people to come closer to God? Are you a bridge or a wall to God?**

* * *

I remember one time right after Mass, the mother superior of a convent went to the sacristy to consult me about their problem of lack of vocations in their congregation. As we went to breakfast and all throughout, she kept on with her monologue, not even giving me a chance to say anything. As she kept on with her litany of bickering and lamentations, I could not say it then, but deep in my heart, I was saying: "Sister, just looking at your poker face and listening to your long-playing soliloquy, I know why you don't have vocations!"

As we go on in our mission of spreading the Good News, let us ourselves become the good news. Are you a "good news" or a "bad news" to other people?

* * *

**I encountered a very special "bearer of good news" this week in the person of Walter Mendoza Jr., a 5-year-old child from Taytay, Rizal. The mother of Walter wrote me because she did not know how her son's letter could reach President Macapagal-Arroyo, and also because his letter was related to my column last Sunday. I have taken the liberty of publishing Walter's letter so that it would inspire not only President Macapagal but also all of us, to do our part in nation building and to continue to have hope.**

* * *

**"Dear Mrs. President, Thank you for giving us hope because of your announcement last Rizal Day. Mommy works hard for me. Maybe now life will be easier for us. Maybe I can go and finish my studies in a good school. I wish all leaders will be heroic, too so that all dreams of kids like me will come true. Please ma'am save us Filipino children and our families. God bless you *po*. You're heroic. Love, Walter Mendoza, Jr." 5 years old, Taytay, Rizal, Jan. 12, 2003**

* * *

The postscript in the letter of Walter's mother touched me deeply: "P.S. My son is a little gifted. He reads the Inquirer, thinks and speaks like an adult. Maybe due to the fact that he has to be strong and smart, growing up without a Dad." Walter's letter is a call in particular to all families as we celebrate 2003 as the Year of the Family and conclude the 4th World Meeting of Families today. In spite of attacks, trials, hurts and deprivations, we must strengthen the family. And what can strengthen the family? It is our faith in God and the presence of mothers like Myles Mendoza who continue to give selfless love. *Mabuhay ka* Myles. *Mabuhay ang pamilya!*

* * *

**Jan. 29 is the Feast of Blessed Joseph Freinademetz, our first SVD missionary to China, who, along with our founder will be canonized in October this year. He spent many years there as a "fisher of men," experiencing many hardships, deprivations and even persecution in order that "the heart of Jesus live in the hearts of all." All of us, young or old, rich or poor must be busy "fishing" for the Lord, wherever we are. So, when will you stop fishing for money, fishing for awards and fishing for compliments and start really fishing for God? Wanted: men and women willing to go into the deep to become "fishers of men."**

* * *

In this year when our founder Blessed Arnold Janssen will be canonized as saint, we take great pride that one of his SVD sons, Fr. Hermogenez Bacareza, S.Th.L., Ph.D., JCD was conferred the insignia of the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit, Germany's highest decoration, by the German ambassador to the Philippines, Hon. Herbert Jess, yesterday at the UST for his "extraordinary merit in fostering friendly relations between the Philippines and Germany." Father Bacareza worked in Germany for 15 years and has written many books on Philippine-German relations. He is the fourth Filipino to receive this award after Gen. Carlos P. Romulo, Dr. Cesar Virata and Secretary Alejandro Melchor.

Our founder from Germany smiles at you, and we all do too, Father Gene. And thank you for being a "bearer of good news" and for being a real "fisher of men" as a Divine Word Missionary.

* * *

**Today, let us consecrate our families, especially our family members who need healing, forgiveness and conversion. Let us lift up to the Blessed Mother our cares, our trials, our achievements, our aspirations and dreams as a family. Let us keep on praying and working for a family that is closer to God, close to one another and close to the people. May God bless all Filipino families and all families of the world with true peace.**

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

*Lord, help me to be a "fisher of men," beginning with my family, wherever I go and whatever I do. Amen.*

# Update from Catholic America

## COMMENTARY

### *Asuncion David Maramba*

HOW has 2002 ended for "the worst year in the history of the American Catholic Church"? Here's a brief rundown:

January: the sexual abuse scandal breaks in Cardinal Law's Boston archdiocese, the "most Catholic" in the United States. Bishops are accused of long covering up and mishandling such cases. Accused priests thereafter resign, are suspended or removed from the ministry.

April: American cardinals meet in Rome with Pope John Paul II to discuss the scandal. Lay reform groups organize, like Voice of the Faithful at the forefront; likewise victims' groups like Survivors' Network of Those Abused by Priests (SNAP).

June: The Dallas meeting of US bishops adopts the "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People" with the zero-tolerance policy and the creation of lay review boards.

July: The first convention in Boston of Voice of the Faithful draws 4000 Catholics from across the country. Bishops select a lay Sexual Abuses Review Board.

August: Groups to uphold the rights of accused priests like Voice of the Ordained are formed by both priests and lay people.

October: Vatican calls for a commission of four US bishops and four Vatican officials to review the bishops' Dallas document. Revisions include a narrower definition of sexual abuse, a Statute of Limitations conforming to Canon Law and "due process" for priests through secret Church tribunals with all cases first forwarded to the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith (formerly the Congregation of the Holy Inquisition).

November: In Washington, the US Conference of Bishops votes on the revised national policy, with 246 bishops in favor, 7 against and 6 abstentions. This goes back to the Vatican for final approval to become law for the American church.

December: Boston Cardinal Bernard Law resigns.

This chronology is the bare bones of history and such, doesn't say much. What lies beneath? Three tensions lie beneath: between the Vatican and the US bishops; between the bishops themselves and their flocks; between conservatives and progressives. These three tensions are linked so closely together that the push and pull of any affects the rest. Tensions arise in any evolving situation and should not be viewed as divisive. Tensions are not conflicts.

First, the Vatican or more bluntly, the powerful inner circle, whoever they are, is not about to loosen its authority on both the bishops and the faithful. The monolith is to be preserved.

Second, the bishops struggle between unquestioning obedience to the Vatican and a measure of autonomy in their dioceses and a sincere desire to serve their flock, some of whom think they are not listening.

Third, progressive lay groups and victims "stunned, sick, heartsick," gathering in "the largest lay movements in the history of the American church," see in the scandal "the best argument in centuries for fundamental change." They are convinced that the crisis is not just about a scandal that can be isolated, but about deep-seated problems in the Church—the difference between the tip and the iceberg. The conservatives, some more Popish than the Pope, immediately rise in defense of the Institutional Church. "Fidelity, fidelity, fidelity." "Catholicism is a fiat. It's not a democracy." Still in awe of monarchial pageantry and authority, they "stand by the Church's hierarchical structure."

Reflecting these tensions is the evolution of the policy on sex abuse from June to November. Right after the exposed bishops took the crisis on the chin and adopted a strong policy which many bishops implemented as they saw fit. By October, it was "whoa." Rome withheld endorsement conceding "conditional approval" *ad experimentum*. By November, the charter had lost its sting.

The Vatican felt that "those bishops ceded their authority... opening the Church to scrutiny, and censure from lay people... an astonishing departure from Church custom and theology and a disturbing precedent." The bishops, many of whom were "company men" loyal to the Pope, circled their wagons and voted "yes" to the revision. Lay critics and victims saw the revision as a retreat and a "return to secrecy." Reformers were called leftists, opportunists, anti-Catholic.

As the dust settles, how does the picture look? There is no Pope John XXIII in sight. Reform will not come from the top. It has to come from the pews who must fight for it, for resistance from pietistic and powerful conservatives will be heavy. How sad that reformers must resort to "close the checkbooks." Bishops may continue to be torn between "diocesan control and the control of Rome." The parish priest, the foot soldiers of the Church, will have the "continuing love and support by American Catholics, however embarrassed and heartsick they are." The communities of faith will live on. Justice may or may not come easy for the victims .

Up for dialogue should be contentious matters such as: which are dogmas, which are not; which, policies; which historical pronouncements and practices; which points fall under *semper reformanda* (always in need of reform), which under "the Church never changes." While there have been words aplenty about participation, how long will the laity (apart from those who tell the hierarchy what they want to hear) be held at bay? Does the hierarchy recognize that this crisis is decidedly another turning point in Church History and must be seen as a hazard signal to dialogue? Not for a timid Church is change. Who knows, ~~Church reform may ye~~t spring from this derided "spiritually polluted" America.

*Asuncion David Maramba is a retired professor, book editor and occasional journalist.*

* * *

*Comments to marda@info.com.ph; fax 8210659*

# No safe place

## AT LARGE

### *Rina Jimenez-David*

WHAT frightens her most about the assassination of former NPA chief Rolly Kintanar, said broadcaster Karen Davila, was that "you could be eating a meal with your family, in a public place like a restaurant, with lots of people around, in a setting you think is safe and secure, and before you know it, gunmen are pumping bullets into another customer."

What the latest killings have shown us is that you don't have to be a rich Chinoy, a politician, or an ex-revolutionary to be caught in the crossfire of criminal and political violence. The two men on the table next to Kintanar's enjoying their Japanese lunch know that only too well. As did the cashier at the *goto-han* where John Campos happened to stop by for a midnight snack. As did the other participants in a conference that Ka Popoy Lagman attended in UP, before he was gunned down as he was leaving.

And haven't you noticed, the signs in banks, restaurants and shops asking everyone to "deposit your firearm with the guard" are back?

Even now, with the Abu Sayyaf seemingly spent, the Philippines still holds the reputation of a land where the "Wild, Wild West" ethic prevails—kill or be killed, criminality run riot, the law is not to be trusted, violence is a fact of life.

We have even learned to classify death and killing. The Ateneo law graduate shot as the result of a traffic dispute shows up in the "Metro" page or as part of the passing parade of criminality in the TV news shows' news bulletins. The murder of Kintanar, because of his past and his public profile, led the evening news and has hogged the headlines for two days now.

* * *

**IT doesn't help either that one prominent killing after another remains unsolved, and despite the media circus that attends the investigations, everyone's labors eventually peter out, dissolving into forgetfulness and occasional fits of remembering, such as in annual commemorations.**

**So what is the ordinary citizen to do in the face of the amorphous threat of violence that hovers above all our heads? When even a "family" restaurant, inside the safe premises of a public park, in the daytime, is not immune from gunfire, then wherever are we safe?**

**As Lisa Kudrow in "Analyze That" remarked: "That Italian restaurant was great, right until the attempted whacking!"**

**I can just imagine Dick Gordon crying over his miso soup. What good are million-dollar tourism marketing campaigns, after all, if the newspapers and news shows around the world are bound to give prominent play to the "whacking" of a former communist guerrilla discussing a movie on his life over tempura? You couldn't ask for worse publicity.**

**Which is why there must be more than just personal or even competitive reasons for such a public killing. This is an assassination that was meant to send a signal to the government, to put officials on notice about the launching of a new offensive, more insidious in that the partisans will strike anywhere, anytime, collateral damage be damned.**

**And the communists cry foul when they're classified as terrorists?**

* * *

OF course young Maria Jose Alenton, born Friday to the couple Dr. Rodrigo and Rose, is a gift and blessing to her family and to society. She is the 10th child of the Alentons, whose eldest is 20 years old and whose youngest, before Maria Jose was born, is one-and-a-half years old.

Making a rough calculation, I would think that Rose Alenton would either be just approaching or is already in her 40s. Which is why I can only admire her stamina, for judging from personal experience, it's no joke bearing a child and then caring for the helpless infant almost round-the-clock. I was 24 when I bore my first child, and 30 on the second, and I tell you, my body felt the years keenly. This is why experts say a woman who gets pregnant after 35 is considered at high-risk, especially if she has had more than four previous pregnancies and the gap between the present pregnancy and the last one is less than three years. Which only makes me admire Rose all the more, for she risked more than fatigue and sleepless nights with Maria Jose's birth. She had put her life on the line.

* * *

**BUT just as Rose and Rodrigo enjoyed the freedom to decide on having a 10th child, defying, especially in Rodrigo's case since he is a doctor, medical advice on the optimum conditions for pregnancy, then I wish they, as well as all the other delegates to the 4th World Meeting of Families, grant this freedom of choice and preference to other couples and families, too.**

**If the family is, as the Catholic hierarchy teaches, the "smallest church," then shouldn't every family be entrusted with the power to decide in its best interests, especially in the most basic and fundamental issue of how many children the couple can best raise responsibly?**

**What I find most distressing about the local hierarchy's position on reproductive health and responsible parenthood is its assumption that couples cannot be trusted to make responsible decisions about their reproductive behavior. Therefore, they must restrict the choices of Catholic couples, threatening with hellfire and brimstone, social persecution and denial of the sacraments, men but especially women who have chosen to use modern contraceptive technology to help them fulfill their fertility decisions.**

**While I am happy for the Alentons, for I happen to believe every baby should be an occasion for joy, I hope they will support the right of other couples like them struggling to raise healthy and happy families in today's context of challenges, to make decisions that they believe work best for them in their particular situations.**

# House of memories

## PUBLIC LIVES

### *Randy David*

AT THE HEIGHT of the lahar flows in Pampanga, which buried a great part of the historic town of Bacolor, I took photographs of our old house in the adjacent town of Betis, and reconciled myself to the thought that this home of our memories would someday also vanish. But, almost by a miracle, while the floods became higher every year, the *lahar* itself abruptly stopped at the door of our town. This offered little comfort, however, because while our houses remained intact, they began to rot from the moisture of the stagnant floodwater.

The house in which my parents raised 13 children was not a rich man's house. Its roof was made of nipa and its floor was not constructed from the broad planks of mahogany that one often sees in the ancestral homes of the landed. Constructed like a boat, it had two small bedrooms and one long living room. Its posts were crooked tree trunks linked together by wooden beams of irregular sizes. Later when they had saved a little money, my parents boarded up the exposed beams and posts to give the interior of the house a semblance of solidity. Gradually, they also added some carved furniture to the basic Pinpin sala set that adorned our living room.

The house had a ground floor that was dark and always damp. It was the most interesting part of the house for me because this was where the discarded acquisitions of the past were kept. I found here the remains of a horse-drawn carriage and the frame of a US-made bicycle. I once dug two rusty Spanish coins beneath the stairs, and I began to fantasize about a forgotten treasure chest buried somewhere under this house by my ancestors. I never stumbled upon any of course, but the thought that this unlit basement silently held traces of my family's past always fascinated me. In later years, my own generation would deposit its own discards in this place—old notebooks, pocketbooks, love letters, shoes, rusty appliances, toys. In the late '60s, I married and left for abroad, and parked my first motorcycle here, a second-hand Ducati. The floods would come once a year and leave a thick layer of silt upon these artifacts of my family's everyday life.

My parents never liked living in the city, and so they never left this house. After my father was appointed assistant city fiscal in Manila, he began to commute every day from Betis to Manila, a good 3-hour journey during those times. A relative took pity on him and offered him a room in their house in Manila. But, unable to sleep in a bed that was not his own, he continued to take the provincial bus, leaving Manila at dawn and coming home to Betis every night. Long after my father died, and all of us had moved to Manila or to other towns, my mother insisted on staying in the old house until she fell ill and could no longer live by herself.

My parents are both gone now. One of my brothers wanted a weekend home, but instead of living in my parents' house, he built a small bungalow just behind it. Unlived, the house in Betis began to die and go the way of all ancestral homes—rot slowly until somebody offers to buy the property on which it stands. Someone told me that everywhere in the country, venerable homes built with pride in an era now gone are being torn down and sold for a song for the second-hand lumber they contain. Our house, made of lesser material, would not be worth anything compared to the stone houses of Vigan.

But humble as it is, this house is built on very strong memories. And the most stubborn of these memories probably belong to my brother Dante, who could not suffer seeing the old ship go down from the porch of his modern bungalow. One day he told me of the ingenious engineers and carpenters of Bacolor town who had devised a method for raising old homes from their weakened foundations and placing them on secure stilts to protect them from onrushing lahars. Using only ordinary jacks, they can lift an entire structure without having to remove any of its contents. The operation is done with great precision and care so that not a single inch of floor or roof becomes misaligned in the process.

All that we needed to know was that it could be done. None of us asked why it should be done. On the face of it, it seems the most impractical thing in the world. No one is going to live in this house. And it is not as if we have extra money to spend on a family shrine. But when we consider how much we pay and how much time we give for all the things in life we regard meaningful, the idea no longer seems so foolish. This house is a diary of our childhood. We want our children to draw their moral intuitions from the many meanings it holds for us. To me, that is what being family means.

Unconsciously, perhaps, my brothers and sisters and I have dug into our savings not so much to rebuild a house but to preserve the remaining images of a shared family life. We are rebuilding this home of our childhood so that we will never forget where and how we were formed. We want our children and grandchildren, whether they live here or abroad, not to forget where they came from. We want them to know that however far and wherever life may take them, there is always a place to which they can come home.

Benedict Anderson says that a nation is an imagined community. I say, so is the family in the era of global diasporas. If we know what it takes to preserve and reinvent the family in a time of rapid change, it should not be difficult to imagine what it takes to rebuild a nation.

* * *

*Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph*

# Hope for families of 'desaparecidos'

## COMMENTARY

### *Daisy Timbreza-Valerio*

IN AUGUST 2001 representatives of the organization Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance (FIND) had an audience with President Macapagal-Arroyo. FIND, founded on Nov. 23, 1985, is a nationwide organization of families, relatives and friends of *desaparecidos*, or persons who have disappeared under unexplained circumstances. At the time of our visit to Malacañang, Ms Macapagal had been in office for only seven months. We told her about our pain as families of the disappeared and about FIND's almost two-decades-long campaign for justice. Her response was, "I hope there will be no disappearances in my time."

Today, almost a year and a half later, I can go back to the President and say, based on FIND's documentation, "Madam President, not a single case of a *desaparecido* has been resolved and involuntary disappearances have continued in your time."

Involuntary disappearances, dubbed as "a crime against humanity" in the documents of the United Nations, have been occurring in more than 60 countries since the 1970s and continues to be a glaring reality in the Philippines. As FIND's secretary general for six years (1995-2001) and a member of the Regional Council of the Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances (Afad) until April 2002, I have been involved in the international campaign against this tragic phenomenon. For years, FIND and Afad, have been working together with the Latin American Federation of Associations of Disappeared Detainees (Fedefam), toward the formation of an international movement for the disappeared. The task includes lobbying for the ratification of the UN Draft Convention on the Protection of All Persons From Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances. A big leap in this regard was taken by the sessions of the UN Working Group in Geneva that worked on a "draft legally binding normative instrument for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearances" from Jan. 6 to 17. The "normative instrument" referred to is the same as the Draft Convention.

Last week, I received an "unofficial" report on the first day of that meeting from NGO representatives sitting in the Working Group sessions. It is heartwarming to note from this report that the French ambassador, who chaired the Working Group in session, mentioned on that first day that it is the "last part rather than the beginning of a long process." Among others, the Draft Convention carries an international definition of involuntary disappearances and spells out some steps in the handling of past cases and the prevention of new ones. Once the Convention is ratified, therefore, it will facilitate the creation of appropriate laws in relation to involuntary disappearances in our country and in other concerned countries. Human rights and peace advocates worldwide will have their work cut out for them.

Closure is elusive for most families of *desaparecidos* because even after years or decades of searching, they are uncertain about what happened to their loved ones. In hiding the remains of the dead, the perpetrators of the crime deny their victims the proper burial that all human beings deserve. The families and relatives of the dead in turn are denied their right to pay their last respects, which is a very important part of our culture as a people. For small children who do not have the tools to understand why their parents are suddenly gone from their lives, the tragedy is even greater.

I should know. My husband, Nilo Valerio, is a *desaparecido*, among the almost 2,000 reported cases of involuntary disappearance since the time of Ferdinand Marcos and up to the present administration. A fact-finding mission led by the Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace (EMJP) and conducted from Sept. 11 to 13, 1985 in Bakun, Benguet, confirmed that Nilo and two other freedom fighters, Resteta Fernandez and Soledad Salvador, were killed by a 25-man team from the Philippine Constabulary (PC), Integrated National Police (INP) and the Civilian Home Defense Forces (CHDF), on Aug. 24, 1985 in Beyeng, Bakun, Benguet. The mission, composed of human rights and church organizations, was carried out in response to news report published in several papers, among them a front-page item in Malaya, headlined "Soldiers behead dissident priest." The FMM report, however, found no material evidence of the alleged beheadings. The victims' remains have yet to be found.

The INQUIRER published our story on its front page on Sept. 20, 1998. Written by Lorna Kalaw-Tirol, it was titled "Nilo and Daisy Valerio: Love in a time of war." I received letters from readers after the article came out. Many wrote that they, too, had missing family members or friends, and were willing to contribute whatever they could toward uncovering their loved ones' whereabouts. Such is the determination of most families to find their *desaparecidos*.

My two sons, Cris and Jeng, who were barely 4 and 3 years old, respectively, when their father disappeared, often said, "*Kahit patay na si* Tatay, *kailangang umuwi pa rin siya*(Even if Tatay is dead, he has to come home)." It has been very difficult for me to help process the pain of my sons because I, too, have been deeply wounded and am still in pain. Writing has become my self-imposed coping mechanism. I have also been involved in the rehabilitation of victims of human rights violations and their families through my work with the Children's Rehabilitation Center (CRC) and Balay Inc.

On Aug. 24 last year, my children and I, along with our relatives and friends of Nilo, commemorated his 17th death anniversary. On Sept. 15 we launched the Nilo Valerio Foundation (NVF) as our small contribution to continuing advocacy for human rights. For me and my sons, my mother-in-law and other relatives, the NVF's existence is a step forward in our healing. We also believe that through the foundation Nilo's ideals will live on, especially his strong sense of service with particular regard for the poor and the downtrodden, his adherence to a simple lifestyle that was respectful of Mother Earth and to the values of transparency and accountability, and his love of principled peace and justice.

*Daisy Timbreza-Valerio is a board member of the Nilo Valerio Foundation. She can be reached at daisyvalerio@edsamail.com.ph. She invites the public to a "Sharing on Asian Disappearances: Updates, Trends and Challenges" on Jan. 27 at 9:30 a.m. at the auditorium of the Philippine Social Science Center (PSSC) Bldg. in Diliman, Quezon City. The event is being sponsored by Afad.*

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TALK of the TOWN

*Editor* **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**

# Do entertainers need a VAT?

THE IMPOSITION of a 10-percent value-added tax (VAT) on professionals has achieved what Edsa I and Edsa II could not--uniting members of the entertainment industry.

In one of the biggest protest gathering of entertainers in 20 years, members of the movie industry, along with professionals, marched on the Senate Jan. 20 to oppose the imposition of the tax.The VAT applies to doctors, lawyers, accountants, engineers, architects, athletes, actors, singers, talents, emcees, radio and television broadcasters, choreographers, and musical, radio, movie, television and stage directors.

The Network Opposed to VAT, a coalition of artists and professionals, claims that the "additional tax" will lead to complicated accounting procedures, erosion of incomes and "commercialization" of professions. It warns that professionals will pass on the burden to clients and patients in the form of higher fees.

Despite the protests, the government is not deferring the imposition of the tax. Professionals had been exempt from the VAT for eight years. Besides, the government says, professionals whose earnings come from talent and consultancy fees paid only P620 million in taxes in 2001 while fixed-income earners paid P66.3 billion.

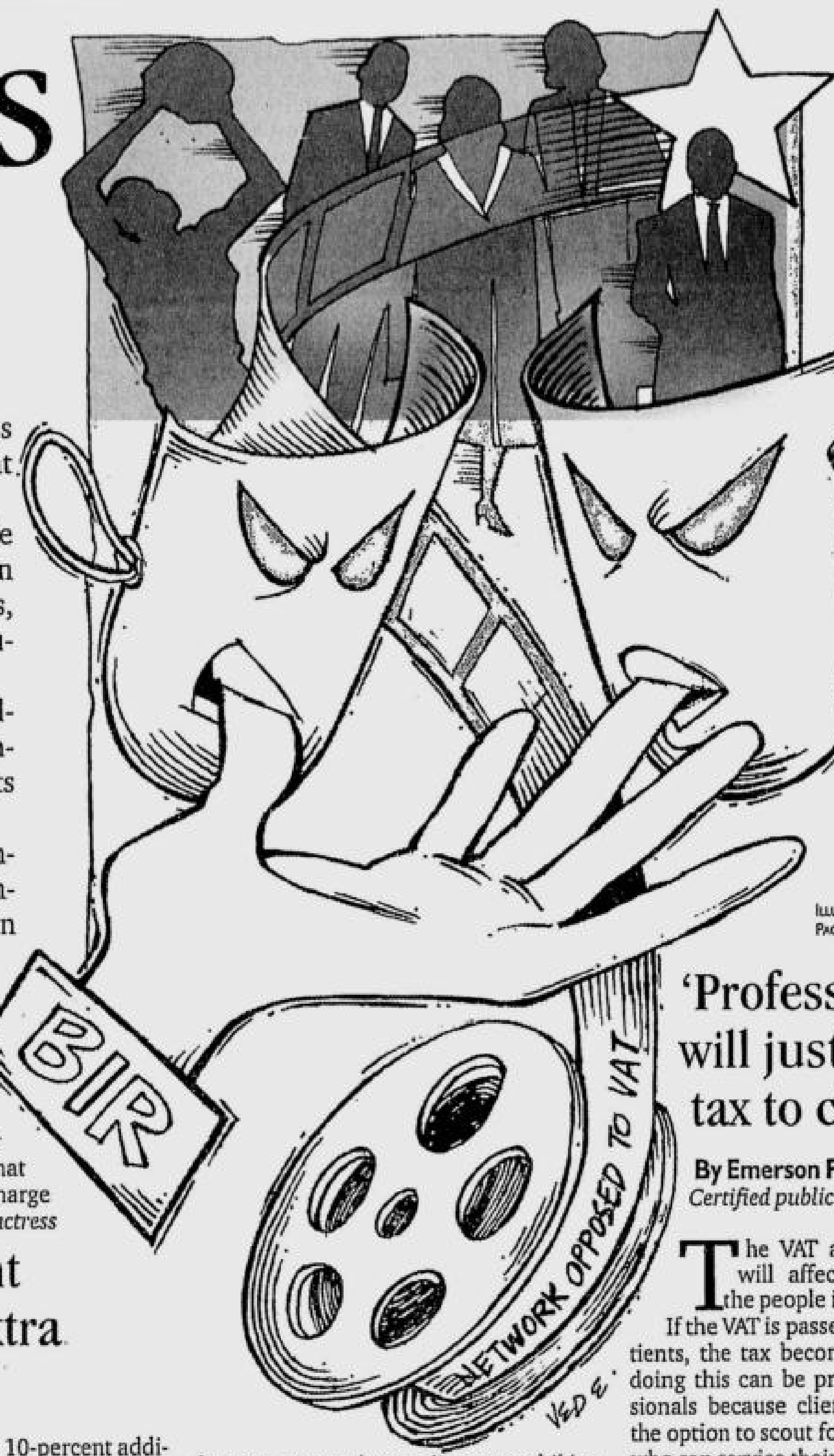

ILLUSTRATION BY JED ESTRADA
PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

## 'Exempt professionals from the tax'

**By the Network Opposed to VAT,**
*A coalition of professionals*

OUR country is in crisis: more than 50 percent of the population lives below the poverty line; three out of 10 children under age five are malnourished; three out of 10 Filipinos do not have access to health services and sanitation; and one of every 10 Filipinos (in the labor force) is jobless.

The government's budget deficit for 2002 was some P210B. In its effort to bolster the economy and cover the deficit, it will start charging VAT on artists and professionals.

We, artists and professionals, are not spared from the adverse effects of the country's economic conditions. The additional 10-percent VAT leveled on us will worsen rather than ease the economic crisis that now confronts our country. Thus we are spurred to form the Network Opposed to VAT (NO VAT).

We are committed to our responsibility of contributing our talents and dutifully paying our income taxes to help uplift the nation's economic situation. However, the additional 10-percent VAT to be imposed on us will actually burden the end consumers, as professional fees charged will be in consideration of this added expense.

The burden on individual professional taxpayers will be the complicated accounting procedures, and the erosion of our diminishing earning capacity and opportunity. Moreover, it may lead to the commercialization of our professions, instead of strengthening our social orientation.

We believe that the 10-percent VAT is not an imperative step to take in filling the budget deficit and in saving the nation from eventual disaster.

The government should look into other ways and other sources of revenue like:

* Less tax exemptions, preferential treatment, tax-free importation, and tax credits to the big local and foreign corporations; (The Department of Finance has said that it lost some P187 billion in revenues [in 2001] because of tax exemptions. Former BIR Commissioner Rene G. Bañez said last year that the poor tax take was due to the extravagant use of tax incentives to attract foreign businesses.)

* More stringent and decisive measures to curb graft and corruption; (Data show that at least 20 percent of the annual national budget is lost due to corruption.)

* More caution and selectivity in guaranteeing loans by private interest groups.

(Government guaranteed loans, many of which did not actually benefit the people, constitute a huge portion of the country's P2.7-trillion debt. Debt servicing in turn eats up more than 40 percent of the national budget.)

We therefore urge our economic managers to be more prudent in managing the people's resources, to consider the performance of the overall economy, and to analyze the situation of the sectors involved with a sensitized attitude before VAT's imposition on professionals.

We call on our government--our President, senators and representatives--to take steps to maintain the VAT exemptions on artists and other professionals, to immediately enact a law that will permanently exclude artists and other professionals from VAT, and to review the unjustness of the whole VAT system. *(Among those who signed the statement were Girlie Rodis, for PAMI; Richard Gomez, for KAPP; Carlitos Siguion Reyna, for DGPI; Julie L. Po, for Concerned Artists of the Philippines; Dr. Jojo Carabeo, for Health Alliance for Democracy; Dr Jojo Sabile, for Philippine Medical Association; Mitch Valdes, for OPM; Celeste Legaspi, for Philstage; Cito Beltran, broadcast media; Joel Lamangan, film director; and Joey Reyes, film director)*

## 'We need to earn a living, too'

There is too much tax imposed on us artists already, such as the withholding tax and income tax. These deductions are more than enough. The notion that we earn a lot is not true at all. VAT is unfair! Unfair! Unfair! We need to earn a living, too.

We do out part in helping make the country a better place to live in by giving our best. We uplift the hearts and minds of our poor countrymen. Yet what do we get? They charge us.**Timmy Cruz**, *singer- actress*

## 'I don't want to pay an extra 10 percent'

I AM praying that the 10-percent additional VAT will not push through because I'm directly affected. And then there is the matter of our local film industry which suffers because of the state of the economy and the problem with piracy.

So many industry people have lost their jobs. Some earn very little compared to us actors. But then, I can only pray that we and other professionals be given a break.

I don't want to be barking up the wrong tree. I also feel for Ralph because he is in the same position as Kiko, who is married to a show biz star. If they display full support to us, some will say *"kasi artista asawa."* If they don't, they'll get criticized just the same. Damned if they do, damned if they don't. *Basta* I love my job. I love my industry. I don't want to have to pay an extra 10 percent.

**Sharon Cuneta**, *singer-actress*

I am marching against the 10-percent VAT for the people who will end up paying for it. If this tax is imposed, we will have to charge the producers higher and higher, and they have to charge the public higher. It's a chain reaction no one looks forward to. In turn, it can kill the industry.

We can help the government with free concerts and the like, but if this tax is imposed, even charity will have a price. We are here to respect the law and lawmakers, but give us a song to sing, not a reason to shout, "No to VAT!"

**Martin Nievera**, *singer-TV host*

We hope not only for the suspension of the imposition of VAT but also for its abolition. Its true *na maliit nga lang ang* effect *nito sa mga artista pero may* 'pass on' effect *ito, at taumbayan din ang mahihirapan.*

**Fernando Poe Jr.**, *actor*

I'm not against the additional VAT per se. If the VAT will be used for the good of the industry, then okay. But if it will just enrich some people, then I am against it.

**Lara Fabregas**, *stage actress*

Paying the additional VAT is okay. It's the other taxes, like the entertainment and amusement taxes, that should be studied. Also, we should be allowed to deduct non-traditional items like books and magazines for research, or CDs or health and dental expenses (cost related to profession). Most of all, we must see good results coming out of our tax-paying obligations.

**Richard Tann**, *balladeer*

As it is, entertainers have fewer job opportunities this year compared to the previous years. Fewer film outfits are willing to produce movies nowadays. It is better to impose additional taxes on people who merely waste their money gambling in casinos, not on artists who work hard to earn for their families.

**Alma Concepcion**, *actress*

Aside from paying our regular 10-percent tax, we are paying our withholding tax. If the government deducts 10 percent from our income, naturally we have to get that somewhere else. We'd have to increase our professional fee.

**Dr. Aileen Jabawel**, *member, Pasay-Parañaque Medical Society*

*(Interviews by Leah Salterio and Marinel R. Cruz)*

## 'Professionals will just pass on tax to clients'

**By Emerson P. Redor**
*Certified public accountant*

The VAT as an additional tax will affect professionals and the people in many ways.

If the VAT is passed on to clients or patients, the tax becomes inflationary. But doing this can be problematic to professionals because clients or patients have the option to scout for other professionals who can service their needs. Thus, professionals could end up losing some good paying clients or patients.

If the VAT is not passed on to clients or patients, it will result in smaller net income for a lawyer, doctor or accountant.

Whether or not the VAT is passed on to end-users of their services, the professionals will have to do additional paperwork in the form of monthly, quarterly and annual VAT reporting and filing to the BIR. They will also have to document and monitor, on an almost daily basis, their practice-related expenses with VAT inputs so that they can deduct these from the VAT output tax on their gross receipts and thus, minimize the VAT that they will remit to the BIR.

They will also have to do this on time to avoid the BIR's huge surcharges and penalties. If the professionals themselves do these BIR requirements, it will result in less productive or creative time for them. If the professionals use the services of accountants, they will incur additional costs.

VAT proponents may argue that the VAT will result in new income or employment opportunities but I believe that these are not the kind of jobs our economy needs. What we really need are more factories and new production-related industries.

Under the VAT law, professionals are lumped together with businessmen and are therefore considered profit-driven. But professionals are more service-oriented than profit-motivated. In almost all the professionals' Codes of Ethics, it is common to find the principle of service first before profit. The VAT system will only make them materialistic rather than productive, creative or artistic.

## 'Professionals are not being singled out'

**By Guillermo Parayno**
*Commissioner,*
*Bureau of Internal Revenue*

It is no secret that the government has to find new sources of revenue to solve its fiscal problem. The deficit in 2002 reached P212.7 billion and this year, the gap is expected to remain substantial at P202 billion. Without the P8.6 billion input from professionals, we are again in danger of missing our target.

Professionals like entertainers, athletes, lawyers, doctors, accountants, brokers and the like are not being singled out by the government in its drive to improve revenue collection.

The fact is, these taxpayers are among those required to pay the 10-percent value added tax (VAT) when the Expanded Vat Law or Republic Act 7716 was passed by Congress in 1996. But Congress, in another law, decided to exempt professionals and banks from the VAT Law until 2002.

In the absence of a law prolonging the reprieve, the BIR issued a revenue regulation to start the imposition of VAT on professionals.

A similar regulation covering banks will be issued soon. The financial sector will simply shift from a five-percent gross receipt tax currently contributing more than P10 billion to the 10-percent VAT, which is expected to generate the same amount.

Contrary to complaints from professionals that they are heavily taxed, government data showed that wage earners who took home 38 percent of the income carried 83 percent of the tax weight.

We, in the government, feel it is about time that professionals carry their commensurate share of the tax burden. The imposition of the 10-percent VAT will help correct the inequity.

The VAT is a form of indirect tax that replaced the three-percent sales tax in 1996.

Unlike the income and the sales tax, VAT is not a final tax in the sense that it is creditable. The VAT one has to pay or what we call output VAT can be offset by the so-called input VAT.

Businesses and professionals earning at least P550,000 a year are required to pay VAT. Those earning more than P100,000 but not exceeding P550,000 are only required to pay the three-percent tax and those earning below P100,000 are exempt.

The first layer in the VAT chain in the entertainment industry are the networks, the production outfits, and the like, and not necessarily the actors, performers and directors.

To illustrate how the VAT works let's use Sharon Cuneta as an example and create scenarios.

Let's say that for a particular show this month, Sharon charges ABS-CBN P1 million.

Without VAT, the megastar gets a million bucks. With VAT, Sharon has two choices. Either she negotiates with the network to increase her talent fee by 10 percent so she can effectively shift her VAT burden to the producer, or she keeps her talent fee at P1 million and use receipts from her purchases to bring down the tax obligation that she chooses to carry.

What Sharon buys from any VAT-registered entity that is necessary for her to perform her craft well can be used to reduce her VAT payments.

Let us say, Sharon bought P200,000 worth of make-up, P500,000 worth of services, which can include gym hours, hair and makeup, or even fees paid to an assistant (provided he or she is VAT-registered).

When Sharon files her VAT declaration for January, which is due not later than the 20th of the following month, she will compute her VAT payments based on the P1.1 million that she collected from ABS-CBN or equivalent to P100,000.

Her purchases reached P700,000 and so she can claim as input VAT P70,000. In effect, Sharon need only to pay the BIR for the particular period P30,000. Under this scenario, the actresses ended up earning even more compared with the time when VAT was on hold.

In the same manner, the P1.1 million paid by ABS-CBN to Sharon would be used by the network to shrink its VAT payments. Those who sold goods and services to Sharon would reflect their sales as output VAT. The same process is done up and down the chain.

From the standpoint of a regulator, we like the VAT system because it is so transparent and increases our potential to do an audit trail.

Our intensive audit using third-party information primarily tracks VAT payments and alerts us every time a chain is broken.

For instance, if one of Sharon's suppliers tried to elude the BIR's net and opted not to declare the sales to the megastar, which was reflected in Sharon's VAT declaration, then we go after that supplier.

As we strengthen the VAT system, it encourages people, especially the VAT-registered to always ask for the official receipt and sales invoice. In a way, we shut out the system to the informal economy. But we encourage people in the informal economy to go above ground, register with the BIR and start paying taxes and help the government provide more services to the public.

*(Interview by Clarissa S. Batino)*

Please send feedback to jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

TALK of the TOWN
Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**

# Do entertainers need a VAT?

BIR
NETWORK OPPOSED TO VAT

ILLUSTRATION BY JED ESTRADA
PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

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We do out part in helping make the country a better place to live in by giving our best. We uplift the hearts and minds of our poor countrymen. Yet what do we get? They charge us.Timmy Cruz, *singer- actress*

## 'I don't want to pay an extra 10 percent'

I AM praying that the 10-percent additional VAT will not push through because I'm directly affected. And then there is the matter of our local film industry which suffers because of the state of the economy and the problem with piracy.

So many industry people have lost their jobs. Some earn very little compared to us actors. But then, I can only pray that we and other professionals be given a break.

I don't want to be barking up the wrong tree. I also feel for Ralph because he is in the same position as Kiko, who is married to a show biz star. If they display full support to us, some will say *"kasi artista asawa."* If they don't, they'll get criticized just the same. Damned if they do, damned if they don't. *Basta* I love my job. I love my industry. I don't want to have to pay an extra 10 percent.

**Sharon Cuneta**, *singer-actress*

I am marching against the 10-percent VAT for the people who will end up paying for it. If this tax is imposed, we will have to charge the producers higher and higher, and they have to charge the public higher. It's a chain reaction no one looks forward to. In turn, it can kill the industry.

We can help the government with free concerts and the like, but if this tax is imposed, even charity will have a price. We are here to respect the law and lawmakers, but give us a song to sing, not a reason to shout, "No to VAT!"

**Martin Nievera**, *singer-TV host*

We hope not only for the suspension of the imposition of VAT but also for its abolition. Its true *na maliit nga lang ang* effect *nito sa mga artista pero may* 'pass on' effect *ito, at taumbayan din ang mahihirapan.*

**Fernando Poe Jr.**, *actor*

I'm not against the additional VAT per se. If the VAT will be used for the good of the industry, then okay. But if it will just enrich some people, then I am against it.

**Lara Fabregas**, *stage actress*

Paying the additional VAT is okay. It's the other taxes, like the entertainment and amusement taxes, that should be studied. Also, we should be allowed to deduct non-traditional items like books and magazines for research, or CDs or health and dental expenses (cost related to profession). Most of all, we must see good results coming out of our tax-paying obligations.

**Richard Tann**, *balladeer*

As it is, entertainers have fewer job opportunities this year compared to the previous years. Fewer film outfits are willing to produce movies nowadays. It is better to impose additional taxes on people who merely waste their money gambling in casinos, not on artists who work hard to earn for their families.

**Alma Concepcion**, *actress*

Aside from paying our regular 10-percent tax, we are paying our withholding tax. If the government deducts 10 percent from our income, naturally we have to get that somewhere else. We'd have to increase our professional fee.

**Dr. Aileen Jabawel**, *member, Pasay-Parañaque Medical Society*

*(Interviews by Leah Salterio and Marinel R. Cruz)*

## 'Professionals will just pass on tax to clients'

**By Emerson P. Redor**
*Certified public accountant*

The VAT as an additional tax will affect professionals and the people in many ways.

If the VAT is passed on to clients or patients, the tax becomes inflationary. But doing this can be problematic to professionals because clients or patients have the option to scout for other professionals who can service their needs. Thus, professionals could end up losing some good paying clients or patients.

If the VAT is not passed on to clients or patients, it will result in smaller net income for a lawyer, doctor or accountant.

Whether or not the VAT is passed on to end-users of their services, the professionals will have to do additional paperwork in the form of monthly, quarterly and annual VAT reporting and filing to the BIR. They will also have to document and monitor, on an almost daily basis, their practice-related expenses with VAT inputs so that they can deduct these from the VAT output tax on their gross receipts and thus, minimize the VAT that they will remit to the BIR.

They will also have to do this on time to avoid the BIR's huge surcharges and penalties. If the professionals themselves do these BIR requirements, it will result in less productive or creative time for them. If the professionals use the services of accountants, they will incur additional costs.

VAT proponents may argue that the VAT will result in new income or employment opportunities but I believe that these are not the kind of jobs our economy needs. What we really need are more factories and new production-related industries.

Under the VAT law, professionals are lumped together with businessmen and are therefore considered profit-driven. But professionals are more service-oriented than profit-motivated. In almost all the professionals' Codes of Ethics, it is common to find the principle of service first before profit. The VAT system will only make them materialistic rather than productive, creative or artistic.

## 'Professionals are not being singled out'

**By Guillermo Parayno**
*Commissioner,*
*Bureau of Internal Revenue*

It is no secret that the government has to find new sources of revenue to solve its fiscal problem. The deficit in 2002 reached P212.7 billion and this year, the gap is expected to remain substantial at P202 billion. Without the P8.6 billion input from professionals, we are again in danger of missing our target.

Professionals like entertainers, athletes, lawyers, doctors, accountants, brokers and the like are not being singled out by the government in its drive to improve revenue collection.

The fact is, these taxpayers are among those required to pay the 10-percent value added tax (VAT) when the Expanded Vat Law or Republic Act 7716 was passed by Congress in 1996. But Congress, in another law, decided to exempt professionals and banks from the VAT Law until 2002.

In the absence of a law prolonging the reprieve, the BIR issued a revenue regulation to start the imposition of VAT on professionals.

A similar regulation covering banks will be issued soon. The financial sector will simply shift from a five-percent gross receipt tax currently contributing more than P10 billion to the 10-percent VAT, which is expected to generate the same amount.

Contrary to complaints from professionals that they are heavily taxed, government data showed that wage earners who took home 38 percent of the income carried 83 percent of the tax weight.

We, in the government, feel it is about time that professionals carry their commensurate share of the tax burden. The imposition of the 10-percent VAT will help correct the inequity.

The VAT is a form of indirect tax that replaced the three-percent sales tax in 1996.

Unlike the income and the sales tax, VAT is not a final tax in the sense that it is creditable. The VAT one has to pay or what we call output VAT can be offset by the so-called input VAT.

Businesses and professionals earning at least P550,000 a year are required to pay VAT. Those earning more than P100,000 but not exceeding P550,000 are only required to pay the three-percent tax and those earning below P100,000 are exempt.

The first layer in the VAT chain in the entertainment industry are the networks, the production outfits, and the like, and not necessarily the actors, performers and directors.

To illustrate how the VAT works let's use Sharon Cuneta as an example and create scenarios.

Let's say that for a particular show this month, Sharon charges ABS-CBN P1 million.

Without VAT, the megastar gets a million bucks. With VAT, Sharon has two choices. Either she negotiates with the network to increase her talent fee by 10 percent so she can effectively shift her VAT burden to the producer, or she keeps her talent fee at P1 million and use receipts from her purchases to bring down the tax obligation that she chooses to carry.

What Sharon buys from any VAT-registered entity that is necessary for her to perform her craft well can be used to reduce her VAT payments.

Let us say, Sharon bought P200,000 worth of make-up, P500,000 worth of services, which can include gym hours, hair and makeup, or even fees paid to an assistant (provided he or she is VAT-registered).

When Sharon files her VAT declaration for January, which is due not later than the 20th of the following month, she will compute her VAT payments based on the P1.1 million that she collected from ABS-CBN or equivalent to P100,000.

Her purchases reached P700,000 and so she can claim as input VAT P70,000. In effect, Sharon need only to pay the BIR for the particular period P30,000. Under this scenario, the actresses ended up earning even more compared with the time when VAT was on hold.

In the same manner, the P1.1 million paid by ABS-CBN to Sharon would be used by the network to shrink its VAT payments. Those who sold goods and services to Sharon would reflect their sales as output VAT. The same process is done up and down the chain.

From the standpoint of a regulator, we like the VAT system because it is so transparent and increases our potential to do an audit trail.

Our intensive audit using third-party information primarily tracks VAT payments and alerts us every time a chain is broken.

For instance, if one of Sharon's suppliers tried to elude the BIR's net and opted not to declare the sales to the megastar, which was reflected in Sharon's VAT declaration, then we go after that supplier.

As we strengthen the VAT system, it encourages people, especially the VAT-registered to always ask for the official receipt and sales invoice. In a way, we shut out the system to the informal economy. But we encourage people in the informal economy to go above ground, register with the BIR and start paying taxes and help the government provide more services to the public.

*(Interview by Clarissa S. Batino)*

## The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

# US plans to quickly seize Iraq oil fields

**WASHINGTON—The US military said on Friday it planned to take control quickly of Iraq's oil fields in the event of war, accusing President Saddam Hussein of planning to destroy his oil wells as he did Kuwait's in 1991.**

A senior US defense official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told a Pentagon briefing that "a variety of intelligence sources" indicate that Saddam intends to "cause damage or destruction to their oil fields."

The official did not describe the nature of the intelligence information seen by the American military.

US military planners "have crafted strategies that will allow us to secure and protect those fields as rapidly as possible in order to then preserve those prior to destruction, as opposed to having to go in and clean up after," he said.

The official said preserving the oil fields would secure the single most important economic asset that Iraq will need in order to get back on its feet after Saddam and his government are gone. He said oil could provide Iraq with $20 billion to $30 billion in annual revenues.

"This is not about the US trying to gain advantage by taking these oil fields or to preserve its own oil industry," the official said. "It is solely and most importantly to preserve the capability of the Iraqi people to stand up very quickly after a Saddam regime and become a functioning, capable member of the economic community."

Iraq trails only Saudi Arabia in terms of oil reserves.

Analysts said key oil fields the US military could intend to protect are the Kirkuk field in the north and the Rumalia field in the south, which combined produce about 1.9 million barrels of oil a day, about two-thirds of total output.

The official said that Saddam's forces set fire to 730 of Kuwait's approximately 1,000 oil wells as they retreated during the Gulf War after seizing Kuwait the previous year, causing a monumental economic, health and environmental disaster. The official said Iraq has about 1,500 oil well heads, roughly 1,000 in southern Iraq and roughly 500 in the north.

"We think that he has a potential to double that disaster from Kuwait," the official said.

He noted Iraq deliberately released about 5 million barrels of oil into the Gulf in 1991, and said Saddam could do the same thing again this time with the potential for even more oil fouling the coast and threatening water desalinization plants.

Asked whether the United States believes Saddam might destroy refineries, pipelines and other important elements of the Iraqi oil infrastructure, he said, "We have a concern that he will try to destroy everythin ... I think there is good reason to believe that he'd be desperate or unstable enough to make those decisions."

YOUNG ballerina students of the Baghdad Ballet School perform "Swan Lake" by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky at the al-Rashid theater in Baghdad Jan. 24. The performance is part of events organized by the ministry of culture to mark the 12th anniversary of the Gulf War, or what the Iraqi authorities call "the Mother of all Battles." AFP

The official said that "it cost Kuwait and the coalition partners over $20 billion to restore oil infrastructure that was destroyed by Saddam during the Gulf War. And it's believed that it would cost us... $30 (billion) to $50 billion to repair and reconstruct the Iraqi oil infrastructure" if Iraq sabotages its own oil fields.

He cited indications that Saddam's forces already have begun the process of planning for destroying Iraqi oil wells.

"There are a number of indications through reliable intelligence sources that those activities have been planned and, in some cases, that they may have... begun," he said.

"We have seen military movement in both the northern and southern oil fields that indicate to us that there is a focus on those fields." *Reuters*

## *Pope asks journalists: Don't peddle disinformation*

VATICAN CITY—With the threat of military action looming in the Gulf, Pope John Paul called on Friday for journalists to join the frontlines of a peace effort and avoid becoming "agents of propaganda and disinformation."

He urged those who convey the news to "follow the demands of their moral conscience and to resist pressures to 'adapt' the truth to satisfy the demands of wealth or political power."

"The men and women of the media are especially bound to contribute to peace in all parts of the world by breaking down barriers of mistrust...," he said in a message for the Roman Catholic Church World Day of Communications.

Last week the 82-year-old pontiff condemned the possibility of war in Iraq, saying it was not inevitable and would be "a defeat for humanity."

United Nations weapons inspectors are due to deliver a much-anticipated report on Monday, which some commentators say could be the catalyst for the United States to go to war. *Reuters*

# Spain cracks major terror network linked to al-Qaida

BARCELONA—Spain arrested 16 suspected extremists on Friday linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network who were preparing to launch chemical attacks, Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said.

In predawn raids, police swooped on 12 homes in the northeastern Catalonia region surrounding Barcelona, also discovering explosives, bomb components and radio transmission equipment used to communicate with Islamic extremists in Algeria and Chechnya, Spain's Interior Minister Angel Acebes said.

"They (police) have broken up a major terrorist network ... linked in this case to the Algerian Salafist group, a splinter of the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), which has clear connections with the criminal organization of bin Laden," Aznar told a news conference in the northern port city of La Coruna.

"The network had connections with terrorists recently arrested in France and the United Kingdom, and they were preparing attacks with explosives and chemical materials," he said. He did not say where the attacks were to have been.

The suspects belonged to two groups led by Algerians identified as Mohamed Tahraqui and Bard Eddin Ferdji, who were among those held, the Interior Ministry said in a statement.

The 16, mostly young Algerian men, were led from a Barcelona police station in handcuffs late on Friday afternoon and bundled into cars to be driven to Madrid for more questioning.

They were being held on suspicion of belonging to an armed group.

In northeastern Italy on Friday, police searched homes of three Muslims after discovering explosives and maps marking the route to a Nato installation earlier in the week. Five Moroccans were detained in connection with the find.

The searches in Spain on Friday turned up containers of suspicious resins, fuels and other chemicals that were being analyzed, Acebes said, as well as electronic components, detonators and remote controls that could be used to make bombs.

Court sources said the suspects may be linked to a suspected al Qaeda explosives expert who was arrested in Paris last year with plans to blow up important French buildings.

Piedad Ruiz, 40, who owns a bakery in the working-class, suburban Barcelona block where several of the arrests were made, said she saw two police vans and 15 to 20 police in the street when she arrived for work early on Friday.

The suspects lived in the basement, she said. "They came to buy bread. They are normal, ordinary people. We never had problems with them," she said.

The swoop by some 180 Spanish police, on a request from French authorities, was the first major operation against suspected Islamic militants in Spain this year.

Acebes said Spain has arrested 35 suspects believed to have ties to al-Qaida since the Sept. 11, 2001, airliner attacks on New York and Washington. Among them were eight men arrested in November 2001 suspected of having a role in the attacks.

In addition, police say lead hijacker Mohamed Atta travelled extensively in Spain in the summer before the commercial jets slammed into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Police say Atta held at least one meeting with conspirators in Salou, also in Catalonia in the northeast of Spain, home to a large contingent of north African and Arab immigrants. *Reuters*

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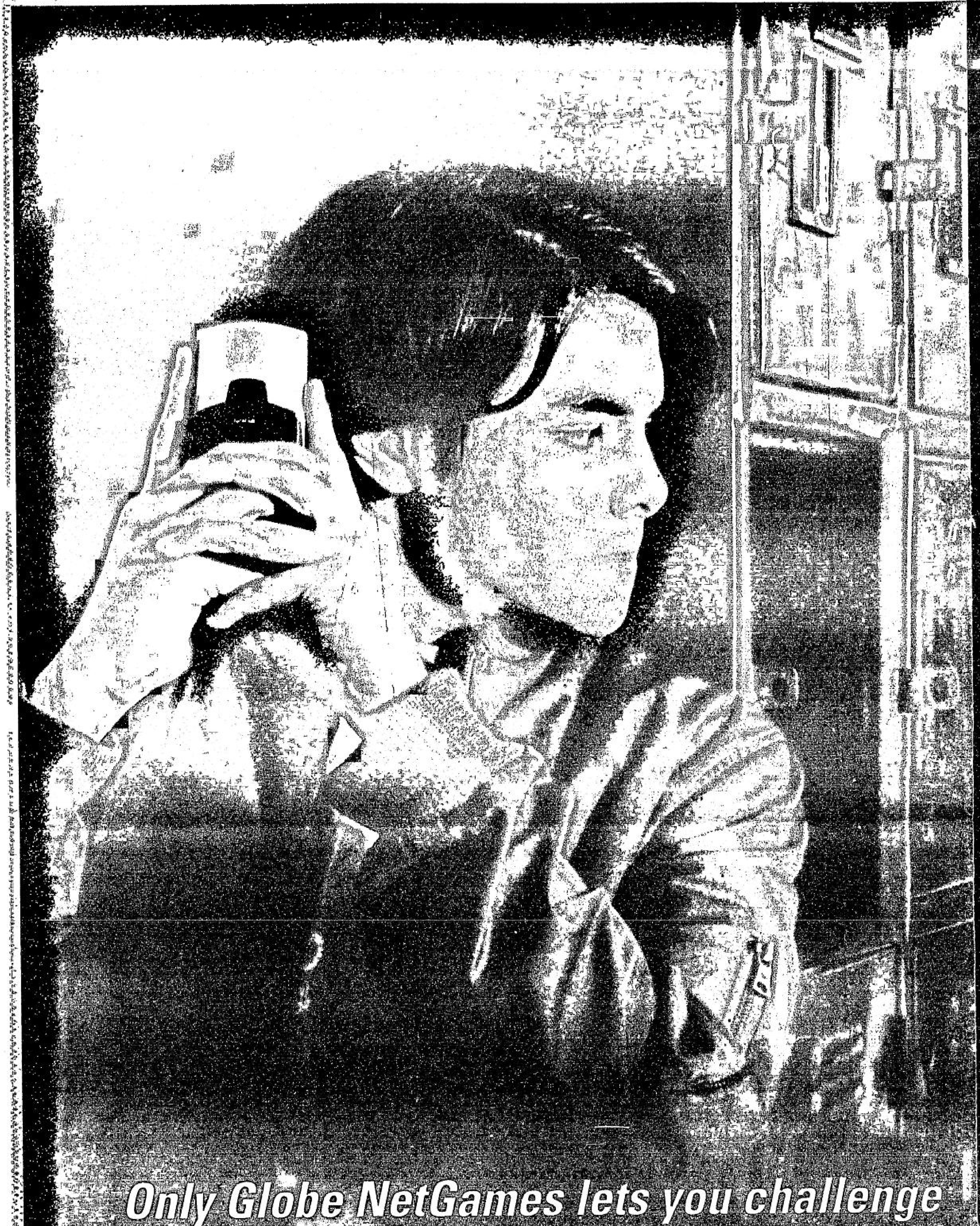

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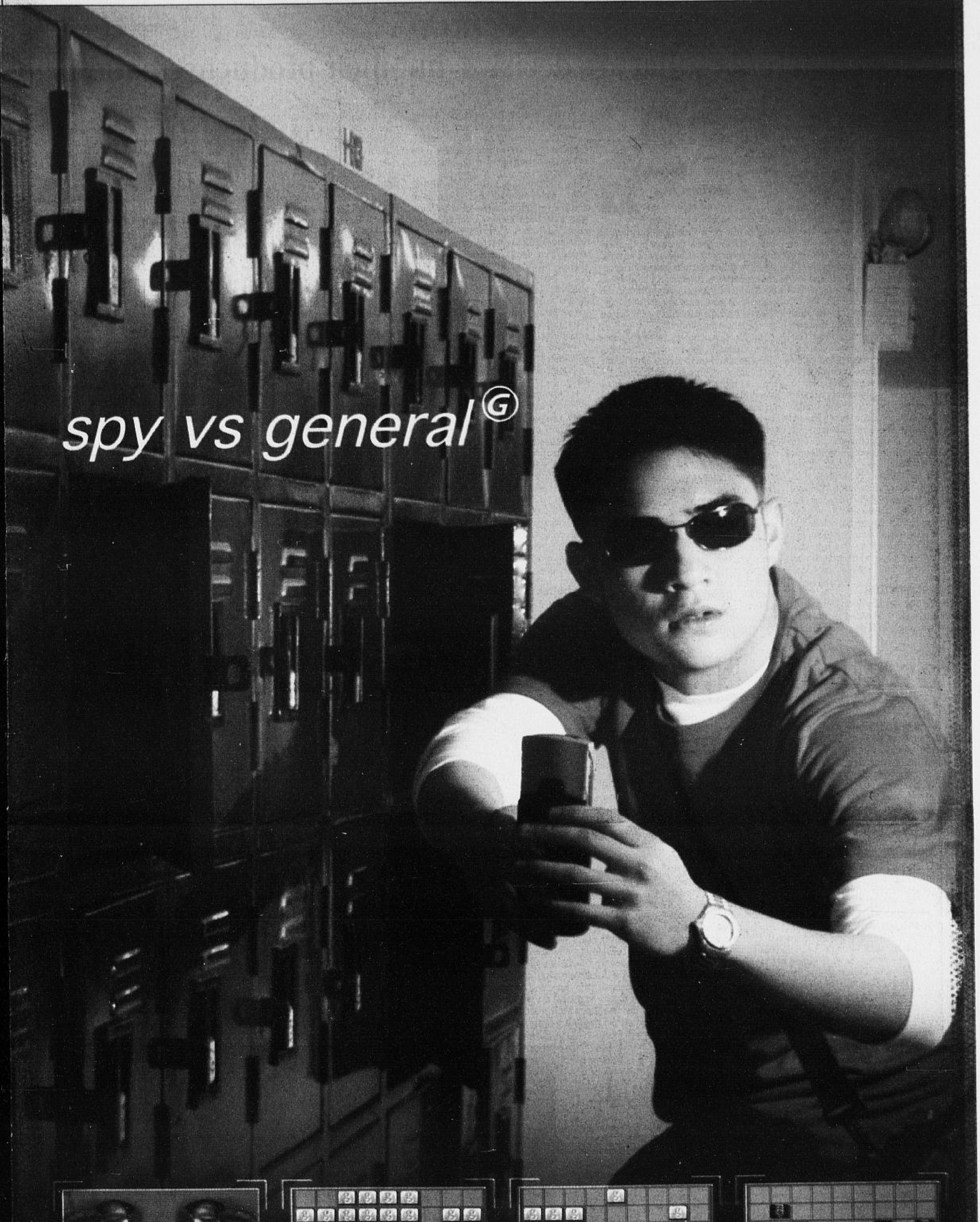

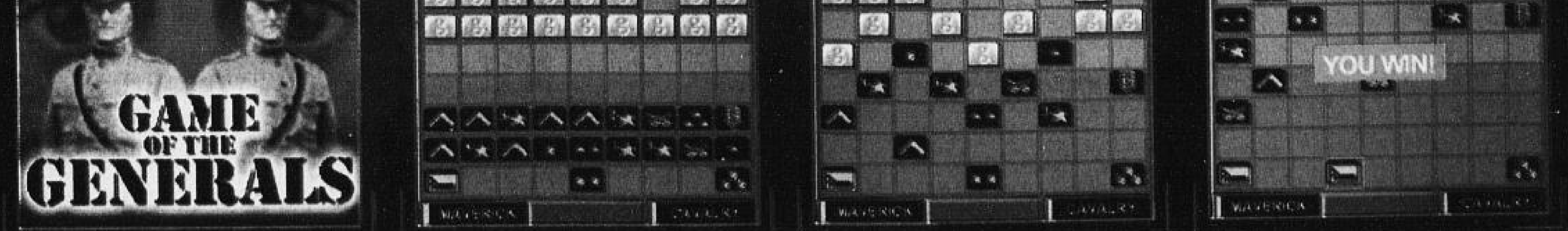

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# It is not differences that are decisive, but their productive handling

*Editor's Note: The World section has opened this corner to the world through the views of accredited ambassadors to Manila, who will write on any subject they deem significant toward enhancing the ties that bind the global family.*

*Diplomatic Pouch is published on a Sunday once a month.*

**DIPLOMATIC POUCH**

*Renee Veyret*
French ambassador

*Herbert Jess*
German ambassador

FORTY years ago, on Jan. 22, 1963, President Charles de Gaulle and Chancellor Konrad Adenauer signed a treaty of friendship which set the seal on reconciliation between Germans and French in an historically disputed Europe. No other treaty has had such a direct and lasting effect on the co-existence of two nations. This treaty, named the "Elysée Treaty" for short after the place in which it was signed, has not only had considerable effects on the political future of Germany and France, it has also had a decisive influence on the development of Europe in the 40 years since its creation.

Germany and France came closer together in the 1950s after many decades of strained relations based on conflict. Chancellor Adenauer, the French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman and his adviser Jean Monnet played a major role in the active European integration projects in the post war years.

After a few setbacks, these projects resulted in the foundation of the European Economic Community in 1958. In 1963, with the Elysée Treaty, the foundation stone was laid for particularly close and trusting cooperation with the European Union. Since then, it can be said that there has been a special relationship between Germany and France.

## Political relations

With no other country does Germany coordinate its policies on such a regular basis and so intensively as it does with France. This is true regardless of fluctuations in public opinion about the state of German-French cooperation. Unusually diverse and intensive efforts reaching far beyond cooperation between governments have developed from the reconciliation efforts in the post war decades. After a period of coming to terms with the past, common policy on Europe is now the priority.

The function of the special relations between Germany and France is irreplaceable. Germany's and France's often different political approaches have regularly proven fruitful for European integration. Compromises achieved by Germany and France, sometimes after long struggles, have been adopted by European partners. Progress has often been made in this way in Europe. It is not the differences at the beginning that are decisive, but rather the productive handling of such differences. This is what lies at the center of the particular role of German-French relations as a driving force in Europe.

Cooperation between the governments is extraordinary close and greatly institutionalized due to the Elysée Treaty of 1963 and its amendment of 1988. To name just a few examples:

- Half-yearly government consultations (summits), which, since 1999, have focused on current topics of society in both countries and therefore go beyond simple cooperation between governments.
- The German-French Security and Defense Council.
- The Councils for Economic, Financial and Environmental Affairs.
- The coordinators for German-French cooperation, which devote most of their attention today to the field of civil society.

In addition, since the beginning of 2001, heads of state and government and the foreign ministers of both countries have been holding informal meetings every six to eight weeks for open and intense discussion on current topics of European and international interest (Blaesheim talks). Exchange and coordination between the two countries, probably without parallel in international relations as regards intensity, are further strengthened by:

- Staff exchange between both foreign ministries and other ministries.
- Close cooperation between German and French embassies in third countries.
- Joint projects to optimize consular services.
- Close and trusting cooperation between the armed forces.

As a result of close coordination, the politicians of both countries have come closer together on important regional and other political issues (e.g. south east Europe and the Balkan question, the EU's Mediterranean policy, Russia).

The European Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) is an important aim for Germany and France. Both countries have played a pioneering role in defense policy by founding the Eurocorps and both are actively participating in the creation of a European Security and Defense Policy.

## Economic relations

Germany and France are by far each other's most important trading partners. In 2001, Germany exported 11 percent of its exports to France, while France sold 14 percent of its total exports to Germany. The strong trading relationship has led to significant direct investments in both countries.

At the end of 2000, the volume of German direct investments in France was EUR 23 billion, and France has invested EUR 29 billion in Germany. In the years following German reunification, France was the leading country of origin for foreign investments in the former East Germany. Numerous German-French mergers in the high-tech sector contributed to this development (e.g. Rhone-Poulenc and Hoechst to form Aventis; DASA and Aérospatiale-Matra to form EADS; Framatome and the nuclear energy division of Siemens AG to form Framatome ANP).

## Inter-community relations

Since the 1950s and, in particular, since the signing of the Elysée Treaty, probably the densest network of social relations possible between two countries has arisen between Germany and France. Of central importance to these relations are the youth exchange program coordinated by the Franco-German Youth Office (150,000 participants annually and six million participants since 1963), the town and regional partnerships (2,000 in total) and the school partnerships (around 5,000).

## Cooperation on education

There are numerous projects focusing on general school education, vocational training and higher education. These projects are initiated and managed by various German-French expert committees and the German-French Secretariat for Exchanges in Vocational Training in Saarbrücken. They aim to strengthen the "European abilities" of young people in both countries and offer the younger generation greater mobility to cross borders in professional life.

The French-German cooperation relies on two other bi-national institutions equally noteworthy: the television channel ARTE, created during the last years of the '80s which prefigured the European cultural television, and the French-German University established in 1999.

## Partner languages

The decline in German language learning in France and the growing tendency in Germany for students to drop French language studies before A-level (Abitur) threaten to undermine an important foundation of the two countries' common cultural understanding. Both sides are making efforts to counter this development. In 2000, the then French Education Minister Lang introduced foreign language teaching to primary schools and made learning another foreign language mandatory from sixth grade onwards in order to open up new opportunities for the German language.

## Future of special relations

German-France cooperation remains of particular significance today, as the European Union's enlargement to the east is moving into its concrete phase. Understanding for common positions on reforming EU institutions and agreement on controversial questions of the future of common agricultural policy smooth the way toward a "Europe of 25."

Germany and France will continue to function as a driving force and innovator within Europe, whether by working out common areas of intensive cooperation and proposing these to their European partners, or by continuing to work productively with contrasting positions and find feasible compromises.

# Powell: US, N. Korea to hold talks at right time

SEOUL—US Secretary of State Colin Powell said on Saturday the United States expects to hold talks with communist North Korea when the time is right and omitted to cite Washington's usual preconditions for a meeting.

Analysts say they expect next week's mission to the isolated North by a special envoy from the South's outgoing president, Kim Dae-jung, to be a forerunner to possible meetings involving Russia and China and eventually to result in talks between Pyongyang and Washington.

"The president (George W. Bush) has indicated that we will talk at the appropriate time and in an appropriate manner. That will happen, I believe, eventually, and we will work out what the proper manner and form is," Powell told reporters en route to the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Washington says it wants to talk only about how the North Koreans will dismantle a uranium enrichment plant and allow international inspectors to resume monitoring work at another nuclear complex.

Pyongyang says it wants to talk, but only to the United States to back its demand Washington sign a non-aggression treaty. Washington has refused.

The crisis was sparked in October when the United States said the North had admitted developing nuclear arms. Pyongyang later ejected UN nuclear inspectors, removed seals from a mothballed reactor and pulled out of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Powell said recent diplomatic moves had produced "some progress."

"There are some things that are going on, no breakthroughs, but at the same time it's settled down a little bit," he said.

South Korez urged the United Nations to give diplomacy a chance by delaying an emergency meeting of its atomic watchdog to allow Seoul's special envoy time next week to talk to the impoverished government in Pyongyang.

South Korea has requested a postponement of the meeting of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) set for February 3 to discuss North Korea's decision this month to withdraw from the nuclear treaty, the Foreign Ministry said on Saturday.

"We delivered our hope that any IAEA meeting would be held at a later date to better reflect the outcome of talks by our envoy to the North," said Cheon Young-woo, a director at the Foreign Ministry. "We expect a positive response from the IAEA board members."

Kim Dae-jung is to send a special envoy to North Korea on Monday to discuss the crisis.

Officials say time is running out for Pyongyang to resolve the crisis and the emergency IAEA meeting could set the stage for moving the issue to the UN Security Council, which has the power to impose sanctions on the communist North.

Pyongyang, which US President George W. Bush has bracketed with Iraq and Iran as members of an "axis of evil," has said UN sanctions would be a declaration of war.

South Korea moved to defuse the crisis by announcing it would send a special envoy to the North on Monday, just hours after the two sides agreed to work for a peaceful solution.

President-elect Roh Moo-hyun issued his own overture, saying he planned to propose a summit with North Korea's reclusive leader, Kim Jong-il.

Roh's envoy, Chung Dong-young, told the World Economic Forum's annual meeting in Davos on Friday that time was running out.

"North Korea must face up to the reality that if it continues to threaten peace, the international community will not simply turn a blind eye," he said.

Pyongyang has hinted at a shift in its position that the only solution to the dispute over its nuclear ambitions could come through direct talks with the United States, saying it could accept mediation by neighbors.

Lim Dong-won, aide to the South's President Kim, will visit Pyongyang on a rare direct flight to the North's capital and over the heavily fortified demilitarised zone (DMZ) that has divided the two since the 1950-53 Korean War.

Lim was expected to carry a letter from the president and would be accompanied by an aide to president-elect Roh.

Roh, who swept to office by espousing the "sunshine policy" of engaging the North that was initiated by his predecessor, said he wanted a summit with Kim without conditions.

Chung said Pyongyang's acceptance of a mission marked a shift from its earlier position. He said the North could benefit handsomely should it give up its nuclear programme, adding Seoul was considering a "bold" reconstruction plan for its neighbor.

Ex-US Defense Secretary William Perry, a former top negotiator, said on Friday letting North Korea begin full-scale production of nuclear weapons would be a "major setback" for US security, and the Bush administration should directly and aggressively negotiate with Pyongyang to prevent it.

Perry, architect of engagement with North Korea in the Clinton administration, said if Pyongyang reprocesses nuclear fuel at its Yongbyon complex, the United States should consider that a "red line" possibly warranting the use of force.

Pyongyang is demanding Washington sign a non-aggression treaty, but US Undersecretary of State Richard Armitage said Washington could only sign a security guarantee. *Reuters*

# Israel forces shoot dead 3 Palestinians, launch air raids

GAZA—Israeli forces shot dead three Palestinians and unleashed air strikes on Friday after militants killed three soldiers in a surge of bloodshed just days before Israel's general election.

In the northern Gaza Strip, Israeli forces carried out a sweeping operation in the town of Beit Hanoun after militants from the Islamic Hamas group fired rockets at the southern Israeli town of Sderot and scored a direct hit on a house.

The swift army response was likely to boost rightist Likud party Prime Minister Ariel Sharon in Tuesday's balloting.

Israelis broadly back tough military action against a Palestinian uprising and shun his main rival's softer line.

One Palestinian was killed and 20 Palestinians were hurt, one seriously, in fierce gun battles that erupted between Palestinians and Israeli forces who swept into Beit Hanoun in what army sources called a limited raid to prevent further rocket attacks.

In the northern West Bank near Nablus, troops guarding the Jewish settlement of Shavei Shomron killed a Palestinian man and a woman who the army said were members of a group that tried to ambush soldiers. A third person was arrested and a fourth fled.

"The woman threw grenades at the soldiers. The other member of the group fired at the soldiers and the third, who was captured, had a suicide-bomber's belt weighing five kilograms strapped to his body and ready for use," an army spokesperson said.

The dead man was identified as 20-year-old Hamas activist Ayman Hinawi and the woman as 48-year-old Suad Jadallah.

The woman's neighbours said she had talked about carrying out an attack in revenge for Israel killing her son, who belonged to a militant group, last year. But her niece denied the woman would have been involved in such an attack.

The incident followed a Palestinian ambush late on Thursday that killed three soldiers on patrol along a road used by Jewish settlers near Hebron, a West Bank city holy to Muslims and Jews.

The Islamic militant group Hamas said it carried out the attack to avenge Israeli military actions against the 28-month-old Palestinian uprising for statehood.

Beit Hanoun was shrouded in darkness on Friday night after troops destroyed the main electrical generator when they thrust into the town and commandeered a municipal building, Palestinian sources said.

Palestinian residents living nearby said they heard several loud explosions in Beit Hanoun. Israeli radio stations said Israeli troops blew up positions used by militants to fire Qassam rockets into Israel.

Israel responded to Thursday's Hebron ambush with air strikes in the Gaza Strip which destroyed a foundry the army said was used to manufacture arms, as well as several homes in Rafah it said concealed arms-smuggling tunnels from Egypt.

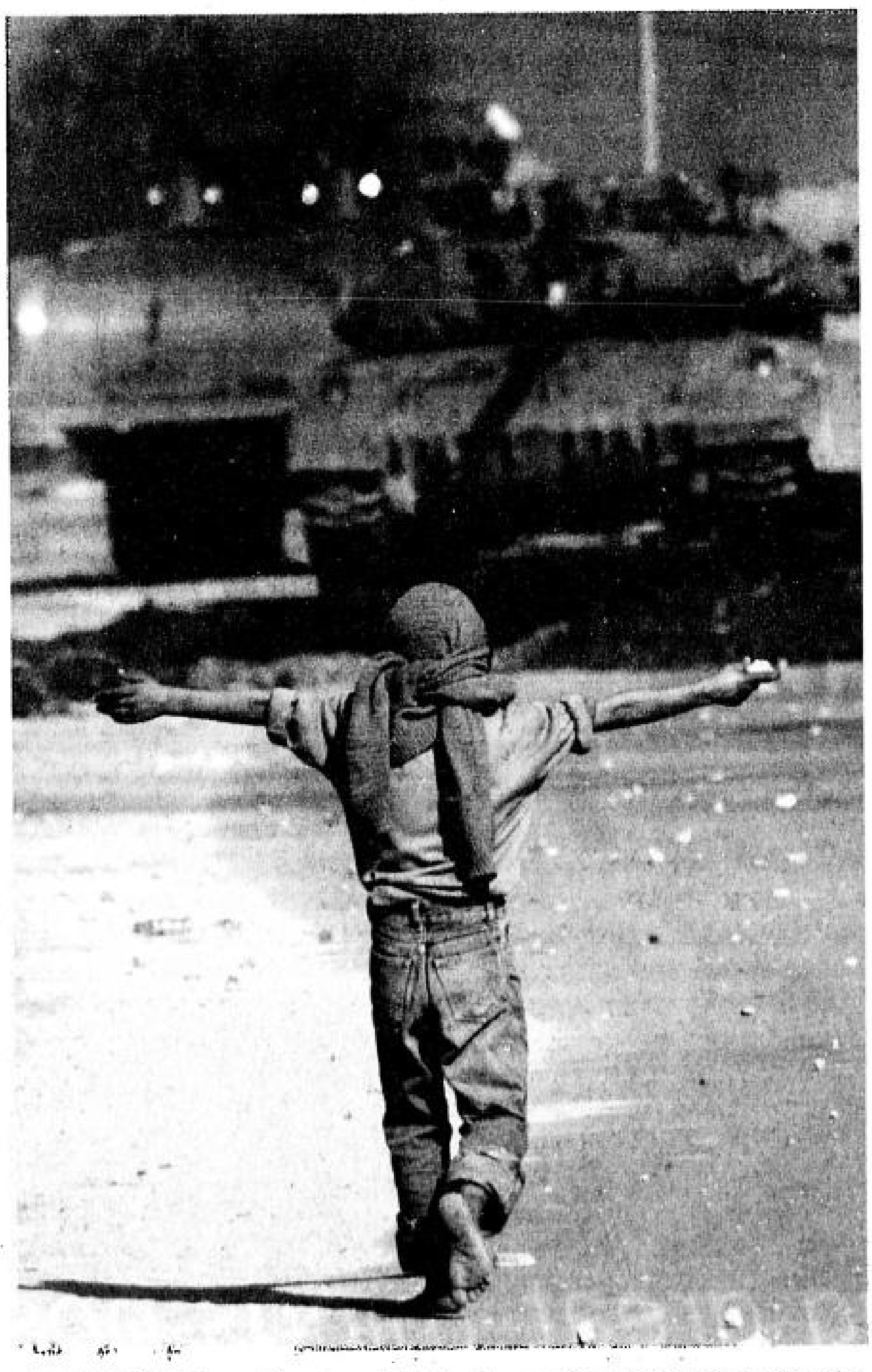
After daybreak, five rockets fired from Gaza landed inside Israel, one striking a home in the town of Sderot, Israeli security sources said. Another hit a crossing on the Israel-Gaza border. No serious damage or casualties were reported.

Israeli Defence Minister Shaul Mofaz said during a visit to the damaged house in Sderot that the army would carry out a series of operations in northern Gaza to prevent militants from firing rockets into Israel.

Hamas, which has sworn to destroy Israel, said it fired the rockets to avenge Israel's overnight air raid.

Palestinian sources said Israeli forces also destroyed 10 houses in Rafah, near the border with Egypt, in a raid on Friday night. The army said they were "abandoned structures used by gunmen to fire mortars and rockets."

The Israeli public has shifted to the right during the Palestinian uprising. The shift helped propel Sharon to power in an election in February 2001 and is behind Likud's strong showing in opinion polls before Tuesday's voting. *Reuters*



**A PALESTINIAN** boy with a stone in his hand waves his arms toward Israeli tanks and military bulldozers during an Israeli army raid into the northern Gaza town of Beit Hanuo, Jan. 24. REUTERS

# Tensions rise between Singapore, Malaysia

SINGAPORE—Singapore's foreign minister told an emergency session of Parliament Saturday that the city-state must diffuse tensions with neighboring Malaysia before they escalate to dangerous levels.

A war of words between the two countries has intensified since last month over long-standing disputes about water prices and competing claims to a strategic islet in the busy shipping lanes of the Singapore Straits.

Singapore called the emergency session of Parliament on Friday after Defense Minister Tony Tan warned earlier in the week that Malaysian navy patrols—which have been coming progressively closer to the disputed islet, Pedra Branca—must stay away or risk "unintended incidents."

Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid has said that Singapore must compromise on the water and territorial issues or "go to war."

"Loose talk of war is irresponsible and dangerous," Singapore's Foreign Minister Shanmugan Jayakumar told Parliament. "It whips up emotions that could become difficult to control."

"It is in the overwhelming national interest of both countries to avoid escalating tensions and conflicts, as the consequences could be costly for both," he said.

Jayakumar reiterated that Singapore was willing to refer disputes to international arbitration if the two countries could not break the current impasse on the issues. *AP*

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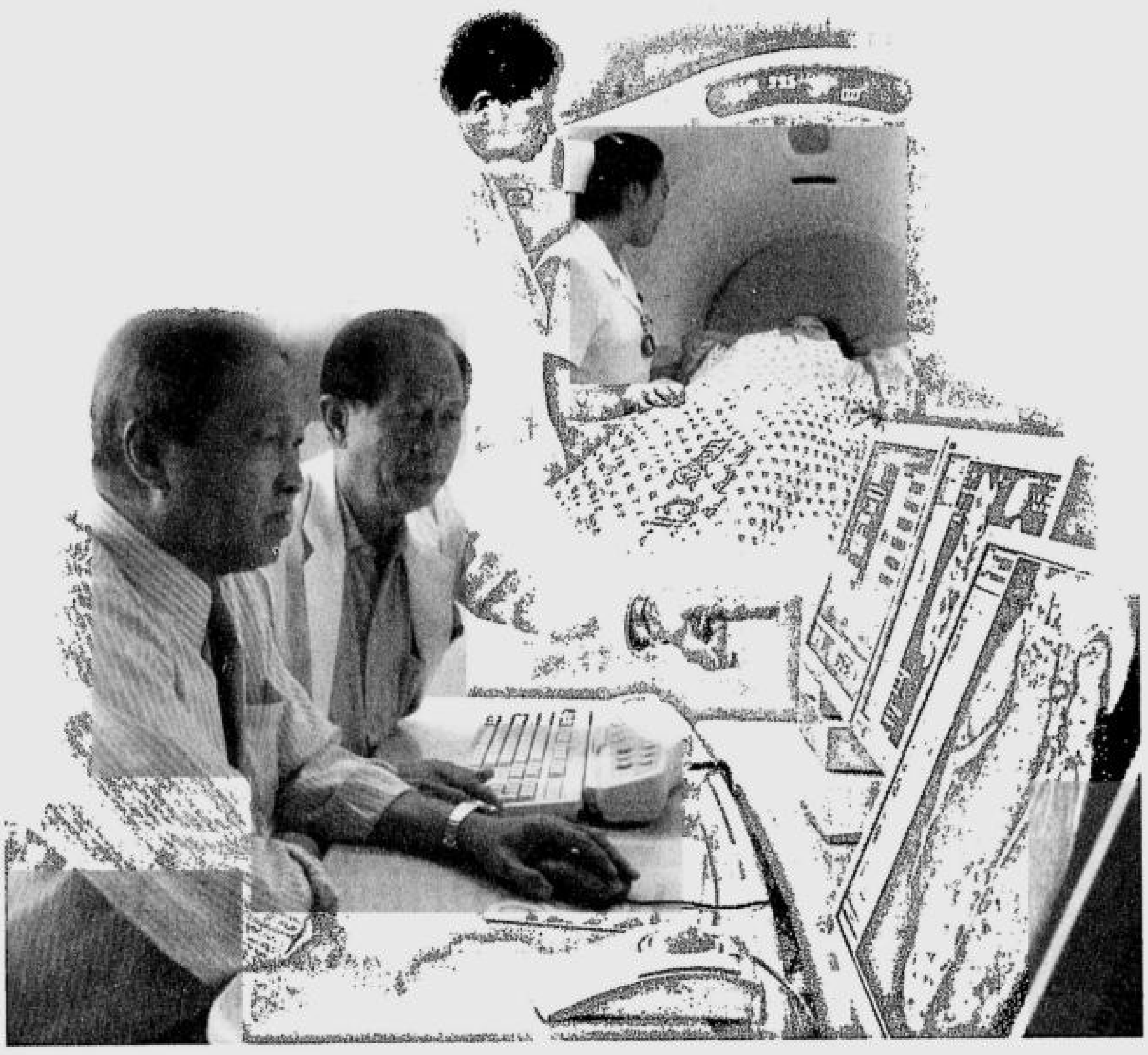

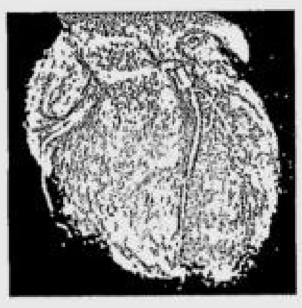

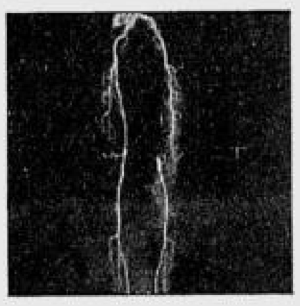

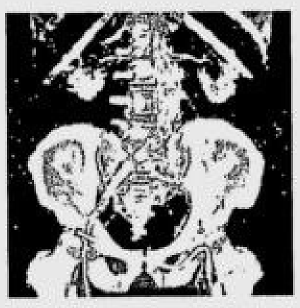

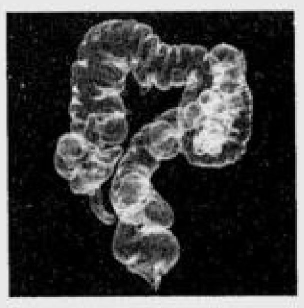

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# Cebu on list of pollution hot spots

**By Lino Gilbert K. Parone, Jr.**
*PDI Visayas Bureau*

**CEBU CITY—This city was put on the list of the country's hot spots in terms of pollution together with three other highly urbanized areas, according to a study commissioned and quoted by the World Bank.**

The cities of Cebu, Baguio and Davao as well as Metro Manila are in the list of hot spots of air quality in the country, said the WB study.

Robert Vance Pulley, WB country director for the Philippines, said in his summary of the report that residents of these cities spent a lot of money to maintain their standards of living in such an environment.

The figure was pegged at "a staggering US$1.5 billion or P75 billion a year, or about 2 percent of the Philippine Gross Domestic Product or P2,000 per person per year."

The World Bank report cited a study carried out in 1990, 1991, and 1994 by the University of the Philippines' College of Public Health.

The UP studies traced the causes of the high mortality and morbidity rates due to respiratory illnesses like bronchitis to the "very fine particulate emissions (PM10) generated by diesel engines, emissions from factories and power plants and solid waste burning."

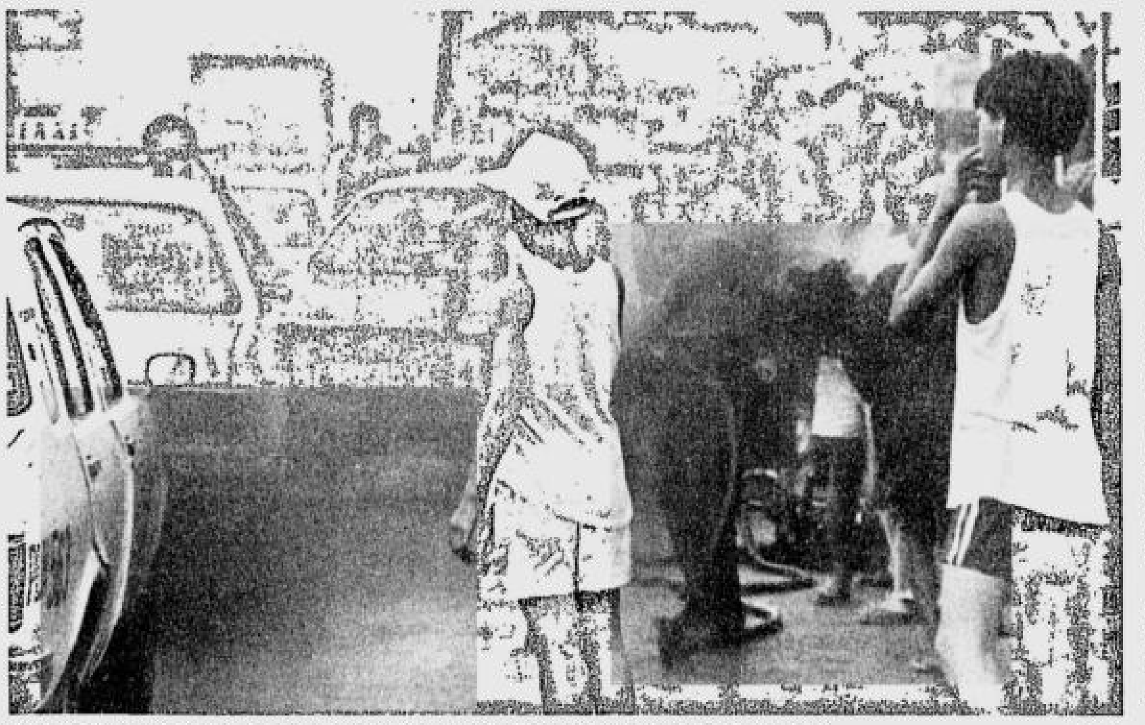
PM10 means the matter is less than 10 microns in diameter.

Pulley said that in Metro Manila, Davao, Cebu and Baguio, the PM10 exposure caused an estimated 2,000 premature deaths each year, 9,000 cases of chronic bronchitis, and 51 million days spent treating or recuperating from respiratory illnesses. The figures represented an average 70 percent increase in the last 10 years.

The same report placed Cebu under orange category of air quality hot spots in the country. Orange category means high concentration of air pollution for low population.

Manila got a Red rating—high concentration of air pollution with high population.

Other categories were yellow, meaning low air pollution concentration for a high population; and green, low air pollution for a low population.


**COVERING** the nose, one of the most common way people deal with pollution.
PDI FILE

Other cities placed under the red category are Zamboanga, Cagayan de Oro, Iloilo, and Quezon City.

Cebu City, with 730,000 population, had 170 deaths caused by air pollution and 336 cases of chronic bronchitis most prevalent among jeepney drivers.

Total cost of medication and the loss of productive job-hours and potential earnings due to the air pollution amounted to $16 million in Cebu alone, Pulley said.

The PM10 data in Cebu were taken from monitoring stations of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Environmental Management Bureau in its regional office in Barangay Banilad, Mandaue City and in Camp Forestal, Barangay Lahug.

Bienvenido Lipayon, EMB director for Central Visayas, said their office could not yet monitor other pollutants aside from dust, pollen and fiber.

Their monitoring last year showed total suspended particulates (TSP) in Cebu exceeded the standard by 6 percent, at 95.5 micrograms per normal cubic meter.

The TSP was composed of particles of different sizes. The national standard is 90 micrograms per normal cubic meter. In year 2000, the reading was way below, at 94.23.

This, Lipayon said, became possible because "problematic" industrial companies, such as Apo Cement in Naga and General Milling Corporation in Lapu-Lapu City reportedly improved their air emissions.

He said new equipment would reportedly be installed in Cebu next week enabling them to monitor chemicals from industries and motor vehicles.

The UP study also showed incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis was highest among jeepney drivers at 17.5 percent, compared to 9 percent for commuters.

Prevalence of respiratory symptoms among school children ranged from 4.8 to 27.5 percent, and from 15.8 to a high of 40.6 percent among child vendors.

# Councilor, son, 6 others missing as boat capsizes

**By Joey A. Gabieta**
*PDI Visayas Bureau*

TACLOBAN CITY—Eight persons, including a councilor of a municipality in Northern Samar, were reported missing on Friday when the motor vessel they were riding capsized along the San Bernardino Strait, Northern Samar.

Commander Oscar Endona, Philippine Coast Guard station commander based in Catbalogan town in Samar, said the ill-fated motor banca, MB Larry Boy, was on its way back to Northern Samar when it sank in waters between Biri Island and the island-town of Matnog.

Endona identified the missing passengers of the boat as Gregorio Preari, municipal councilor of Biri; his son Benjamin; Victor Mandieta; Al Luna; Tito Arca; Macario Concha; Jaime Castro and Dexter Nebreda—all residents of Biri Island.

He said the Coast Guard has started conducting search and rescue operations in a bid to locate the missing boat passengers.

According to Endona, officials and residents of Biri Island, led by the town's mayor, James Garcia, are helping in the search and rescue operations.

"Based on our information, MB Larry Boy was battered by strong currents and strong waves that resulted (in the boat to) capsize aside from the fact that it was overloaded," he told the INQUIRER.

It is common for boat operators to overload especially in areas where the main mode of transportation is by sea.

Preari, according to initial investigation, reportedly borrowed the MB Larry Boy, which is owned by Salvador Quenao of Barangay San Antonio, Biri to use the boat to haul construction materials that he bought in Matnog.

He said the motorboat was loaded with bags of cement and steel bars when it sailed back to Northern Samar from Matnog after Preari had bought the materials in the town.

But Endona said the vessel only had a passenger capacity of eight to 10 people. It had gross tonnage of 2.93 tons and a net tonnage of 1.99 tons, he added.

The country has a long list of sea mishaps that killed hundreds of people.

The worst sea tragedy to hit Philippine seas was the burning and sinking of the passenger ship Doña Paz which killed thousands of people.

The ship, investigators learned, had been overloaded.

**TERRORIST**
JOE ARAZAS
**All eyes were fixed at the sight of this man who dressed himself up as Abu Sayyaf leader Abu Sabaya during the Ati-atihan feast in Kalibo, Aklan. The costume drew laughs and surprise from the hundreds who watched the festivities.**

# Indigenous folk wary over Charter changes

BAGUIO CITY—Indigenous Filipinos here plan to repel the move to amend the 1987 Constitution after one of the Cordillera's congressmen admitted that the provision acknowledging indigenous Filipino rights is listed for priority alteration.

Gaspar Cayat, president of the Kalanguya tribal organization based here, said tribal elders could decide to lobby against charter change.

The Kalanguya Congress is scheduled at the end of this month while several Ibaloi organizations fighting for ancestral land rights have started discussions aimed at fortifying their opposition to charter change.

Baguio Rep. Mauricio Domogan, vice chair of the House committee on constitutional amendments, admitted to the INQUIRER in a Jan. 17 press conference that charter provisions respecting indigenous peoples' rights had been discussed for possible amendments, although he did not explain why.

But he also admitted that proponents of constitutional change are proposing a section that would allow foreigners the right to own property, he acknowledged.

Domogan said the foreign property clause is part of the so-called economic reforms being injected into the 15-year-old Constitution.

Article 2 of the 1987 Constitution provides indigenous Filipinos their most direct state protection: "The State shall recognize and promote the rights of indigenous cultural communities for national unity and development."

Three more sections supplement this provision.

Section 20 of Article 10 on Local Governments directs autonomous governments covering indigenous Filipinos to allow them access to legislative control. Section 5 of Article 12, that prescribes guidelines for national economy, supports indigenous Filipino control over ancestral resources. Section 12 of Article 16 provides for the development of a consultative commission that would advise the president about indigenous Filipino affairs.

Also up for amendment or deletion is a companion prescription that creates autonomous regions in Cordillera and Muslim Mindanao, Domogan said.

Domogan, a member of the Cordillera's Bago tribe, said the section acknowledging indigenous peoples' rights over their resources will need some "corrections" because it could spark fighting among tribes.

He said deleting the provision that creates separate Cordillera and Mindanao autonomous regions is likely under a proposed federal form of government. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

# Pacquiao says sickness knocked him out of rites

DAVAO CITY—World boxing champion Manny Pacquiao broke his silence over reports that he snubbed a recent awards ceremony of the Philippine Sportswriters Association, saying he was hurt by them.

The group gave Pacquiao the Sportsman of the Year award but he was not around to receive it.

Reports said Pacquiao was unable to show himself up because he was busy with his newfound love, billiards.

The same reports, carried by most sports columnists, said the boxing champion lost "a whooping half million pesos in one game during a match in Davao City."

But Pacquiao, in an exclusive interview with the INQUIRER here, said he never snubbed the award ceremonies, which was lavishly prepared by the PSA at the Holiday Inn.

The truth, he said, was he was then suffering from loose bowel movement (LBM).

"I could not come because I was sick," Pacquiao said.

He said he called up his trainer Restituto Fernandez to call the attention of the PSA president and to apologize for his failure to attend.

Fernandez said it was apparent that the PSA president failed to tell the crowd gathered at the ceremony that Pacquiao could not come because of illness.

Fernandez said Pacquiao was so excited to attend the ceremonies and even asked him to buy a "barong tagalog," a manifestation that he did not plan to snub the affair.

He said it was unfortunate that Pacquiao got ill.

"I know when he is sick. He never tells a lie to me," Fernandez, who is also Pacquiao's childhood friend, said.

On criticisms that he was becoming too engrossed in billiards, Pacquiao said he was only honing his skills.

"I want to be a professional (billiard) player," he said.

But he denied he is into big time gambling.

"That's too much," Pacquiao said referring to reports that he lost hundreds of thousands of pesos during a billiards match. *Dennis Jay C. Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

# Military seeks ouster of DENR official

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—The Army's 4th Infantry Division here is waging a new war.

This time, the target is not the New People's Army but the regional environment director for Northern Mindanao.

Maj. Johnny Macanas, regional military spokesperson, said the military wanted to oust Fernando Quililan, the Northern Mindanao environmental director, for his failure to act against the proliferation of illegal logging operations in the region.

Worst, Macanas said Quililan has been ordering the release of illegal logs that were seized by the military, even if these logs lacked documents that would show they had not been cut illegally.

"There have been countless instances that our efforts went (for naught). RED (Regional Executive Director) Quililan has been releasing all the apprehended illegally sewn logs mostly from Caraga region and Lanao del Sur areas," Macanas said.

He said the military was suspecting that Quililan has been receiving money from illegal loggers.

The INQUIRER tried to contact Quililan but he was reportedly in Manila. Nobody from among his subordinates would provide his contact number.

Macanas said that since the military intensified its anti-illegal logging operations in July 2002, it managed to confiscate about 74 truckloads of logs and lumber amounting to about P5.3 million.

But he said that their effort went to waste because Quililan ordered the release of the impounded logs that the military had confiscated.

"He had the gall to do that without even informing us. We have the right to file a motion for reconsideration but how could we do that when he already released the illegal logs and lumber (without informing the military)?" he lamented.

Macanas said the military wanted Quililan investigated and ousted so that the campaign against illegal logging in the region could succeed.

Bencyrus Ellorin, spokesperson of the environmental group Task Force Macajalar, said they were supporting the military's effort to have the environment executive investigated and removed from his position.

The INQUIRER also learned that residents of El Salvador town in Misamis Oriental, worried over the continued illegal logging around their area, have started gathering signatures in support of the move to oust Quililan.

Illegal logging continues despite the proclamation of some mountain ranges and forests in the country as reserved parks. *Grace C. Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph
INQUIRER *Mindanao*
*Editor* **Jun Bandayrel** ◎ *Bureau Chief* **Nico A. Alconaba**

# Curtains part for kids in village stage plays

**GENELIN** in school. She also dreams of becoming a teacher someday.

MA. CECIL LAGUARDIA

**HERMINIA** braving the noonday heat to earn for her family.

MA. CECIL LAGUARDIA

**By Maria Cecil B. Laguardia**

SHE sang even before she could talk," Herminia Amador said of her daughter Genelin who dazzled her audience with her performance in Panaghoy, a play about the everyday life of Agusanons.

Sun-burned Herminia, a stocky and hardworking 50-year-old mother, was misty-eyed saying she could not believe her daughter was that good. She recalled how Genelin would sing in front of a broken mirror, on top of a sawed-off tree, or even while preparing to sleep.

There were times Herminia was afraid Genelin might lose her head over her burning desire to be a singer like those movie stars she saw on the neighbor's television. She often warned her not to dream too much, but seeing her that day made her realize that Genelin has every reason to hope for something big in the future. The girl has talent all mirrored in her eyes. And a burning determination that makes her rise from the rest.

Twelve-year-old Genelin, a perky Grade 6 student of Sta. Josefa Elementary School, is one of the 13 members of Children's Innovative Theatre Arts Group (Citag) which was revived last year by its mentor Rudolph Wendell Candelaria to advocate child protection and environmental protection in the province of Agusan del Sur.

Based in Trento, Agusan del Sur, Citag aims to showcase the rich cultural heritage of Agusan.

Choosing the lean composition group was a big challenge. According to Wendell, they painstakingly went from one barangay to another and auditioned interested children, who came in droves and showed all abilities they have (singing, dancing, drama, even somersaults). Many mothers pleaded for their children to be considered, but Wendell's team stuck to their approach and came up with a bevy of talents that accentuated the bountiful cultural legacy of Agusanons to its children.

In the play, which is still being polished for local run and was on special performance for the families of its members that day, Genelin plays a daughter to an Agusanon couple mired in poverty. She has a brother, played by diminutive 11-year-old Jefty Salvador, whose alertness and timing in delivering lines can give Bayani Agbayani a run for his comic talent, and a sister portraying the difficulty of an adolescent stage in a community with very few choices due to poverty.

Jefty made everyone gasp when he suddenly jumped in the arms of his father, played by Junie Dispanso, who also caught him mid-air. Call that timing. In the play, Genelin teases her sister of having an eye on the driver of *habal-habal* (motorcycle turned passenger vehicle plying the village routes). This strikes a chord on the plight of young girls who have to marry early for lack of better choices. Jefty and Genelin made the audience howl with laughter with their version of "Isa pa, isa pang chicken joy . . . Jollibee" should see this play. Cleofe Candedair, playing the mother, showed tact and sense of humor when she called her supposed husband "pare" but immediately said loudly, "ay, nganong pare, akong bana man diay ni (why am I calling him 'pare' when he is my husband).

Fourteen-year-old Junie Dispanso was perfect for the role of a father faced with the day-to-day grind of the farm and still worried about how to raise his family out of poverty. What makes Panaghoy different is that the children were given freedom to innovate on their dialogues. The result was a cornucopia of dazzling performances that transported the star-struck audience right in the makeshift home of a poor Agusanon family. With such meager resources and just armed with the longing to get their message across, the children have successfully found an effective way to deliver their message.

Junie's slit eyes, brown skin and serious disposition makes your heart bleed over the travails that every farmer undergoes. His eyes reflect desperation, but they are quick to hope when a visiting friend told him that somebody from a non-government organization is looking for beneficiaries of their micro-finance project.

Linda Lapidez, a mother in the audience, affirms the realness of the dialogues adding that when harvest time comes, and the farmer sees what was left of a four-month hard work, "makainingles ka gyud, OD (over draft) ug short". This cycle, said Linda, continues until one is neck-deep in debt.

With rising prices of fertilizers and pesticides and the constant ravages that rats bring to the rice fields, farmers just have to contend with a lifetime of poverty. She laments that when harvest is good, the price plummets to its lowest. The only time that price escalates is when there is no harvest. "How can we win against businessmen?"

Genelin's life is even more complex than the role she plays. Her 62-year-old father Rogelio is physically handicapped and is jobless. Since 1972, her mother was the one who worked for the family of 10. Genelin is eighth in the family and one of three who go to school.

Herminia said she feels sad for her husband who went through extremely difficult situations in life. As a young man, Rogelio became the breadwinner of his family when his father died early. To sustain his mother and three brothers and sisters, he worked in a logging concession hauling logs onto carabaos and soaking them in nearby rivers to be ready for the markets.

"Carabao logging was a very arduous job, thus my husband was incapacitated at a young age. There was no other choice, one has to earn to be able to eat and survive," Herminia sadly recollects.

When they got married, Rogelio used to be a laborer in rice and corn mills, manually hauling sacks of rice. He was paid P1 per sack and was able to carry 20 sacks per day. Even at home now, Rogelio still prays to be able to help his family by hoping that someday they can save money to have a backyard piggery that he can attend to, to augment Herminia's meager income.

Without farmland of their own, Herminia works in farms earning P75 for a day's *panghurna* (farm labor) such as weeding, harvesting, etc. They consider the months February to April and August to September as "krisis" for lack of harvest. During these times, the family is ready to subsist on balinghoy ug kamote (cassava and sweet potato) planted in their small backyard.

Home is a small piece of land which a kind family has allowed them to live on, along with hundreds of other families, in Sitio Badas, Sta. Josefa, Agusan del Sur. Rogelio said they lived there since 1990. He is frustrated that he has to turn over the responsibility to his wife but he has no alternative. He is often left alone doing light housework like cooking and cleaning the house. According to the midwife at the health center, he has no tuberculosis, he has just to refrain from doing hard work.

Herminia, herself an orphan when she was five, was so frustrated her daughter Ruth, who was already on her first year in college taking up a course on agriculture, has to stop schooling for lack of money. She was a scholar of a tribal foundation but was dropped due to low grades in Math. Ruth abandoned her dream of becoming an agriculturist and, together with sister Nora, went to Manila, worked as house helpers earning P1,500 per month. They hardly send home some money because, as Rogelio acknowledges, their salary can hardly sustain their needs, too.

Despite the bleak scenario, Genelin is unfazed. Her being in Citag, and even just the mention of it, is enough to bring hope in her eyes. She readily belts out her favorite songs in front of her proud classmates, Give Thanks to the Lord and Tanging Yaman, upon request.

Her favorite story is not Cinderella or Snow White but Ibong Adarna, because in it she learned that good and hardworking people get their reward in the end. She longs to see Carol Banawa and Jolina someday, or even sing with them.

The melancholy in Genelin's eyes as she sings is enough to melt one's heart. With proper coaching, and the right opportunity, she may find her place alongside Carol and Jolina someday.

The play ends with Genelin, her eyes full of intensity, challenging the audience to do something; not just sit down and wait, to improve their lot. Given the chance, Genelin can sing and act herself and her family out of poverty.

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# Surigao del Sur town starts making waves as RP's favorite surfing site

**By Ramon Jorge Sarabosing**

MAKE way for Mindanao and the country's newest surfing playground—Lanuza, Surigao del Sur.

This rustic but elegant little town, which faces the Pacific Ocean, has endless waves ideal for surfing and water sports activities.

A surfboard left behind in 1972 by an Australian attests that Lanuza has for long been a secret destination for surfers who prefer private, unexplored and uncrowded places. It only shows, albeit unofficially that Lanuza has preceded General Luna, Siargao, though GL is now considered the surfing capital of the country.

"We never had the chance to give surfing due recognition because of other priorities but this year, in celebration of our 84th year anniversary, we thought of highlighting surfing as a tribute to our local surfers," said Dr. Algerico Irizari, the mayor.

There are 17 local amateur surfers and this prompted the town officials to hold the first Lanuza Surfing Challenge.

The site of the competition is Doot Poktoy Beach, a huge sandbar across the town's seawall.

Townsfolk take a five-minute pump boat ride to reach it.

For long, the local surfers, all in their youth were left to themselves.

"We were surprised but pleased when informed that we will be highlighted in the celebration. We were encouraged and inspired to practice and play more. Who knows one of us will bring honors to our town someday," says a 15-year-old surfer.

All the surfers are sons of fishermen who acquired their boards from foreigners who left them behind. They are even more inspired and energized as surfers from General Luna came, interacted and assisted the event.

Together they identified 10 surfing sites within the 15-kilometer municipal waters, foremost of which is Sitio Badjang, down the mountain cliff by the highway.

Surfers from GL said they find the waves here different from theirs.

"The waves here are long so each surfer can ride them in opposite directions, at the same time."

How big can the waves be?

"On a lucky day, it will reach up to eight feet," said Mark Aldea, a mountaineer-turned-surfing enthusiast.

"But it will really depend on the weather condition, whether there is a storm nearby or at the other side of the Pacific," said a visiting Hawaiian amateur surfer.

But, claim the local boys, the best time to surf is from December to March.

Mayor Irizari and the town officials are contemplating if they make the surfing challenge a yearly event, even a regional or national in scope.

"This is only a test-run but its outcome so far is encouraging," he said.

Salome Aquino, tourism regional director, who graced the one-day event, pledged her support and has encouraged the mayor to focus on the long board as a major come-on.

"Many long board surfers have been asking me to find them an area, and even first gentleman Mike Arroyo said he was longing for that place, I think Lanuza is the place," Aquino said.

**TOWNSFOLK** wait for the competition to start.

RAMON JORGE SARABOSING

But is the town ready for the influx of urban and foreign tourists who bring in with them bizarre material culture? Will it be able to balance economic growth and hold on to the integrity of homegrown cultural values?

"That is what we must study closely. We certainly don't like to be exploited to the hilt," Irizari said.

But with or without surfing, Lanuza by itself is a major destination. Named as the region's most cleanest and greenest town and a perennial national finalist in the DILG-sponsored contest, Lanuza is a must visit to any traveler who seek tranquility and the off-beat paths.

The friendly locals have the following to show off:

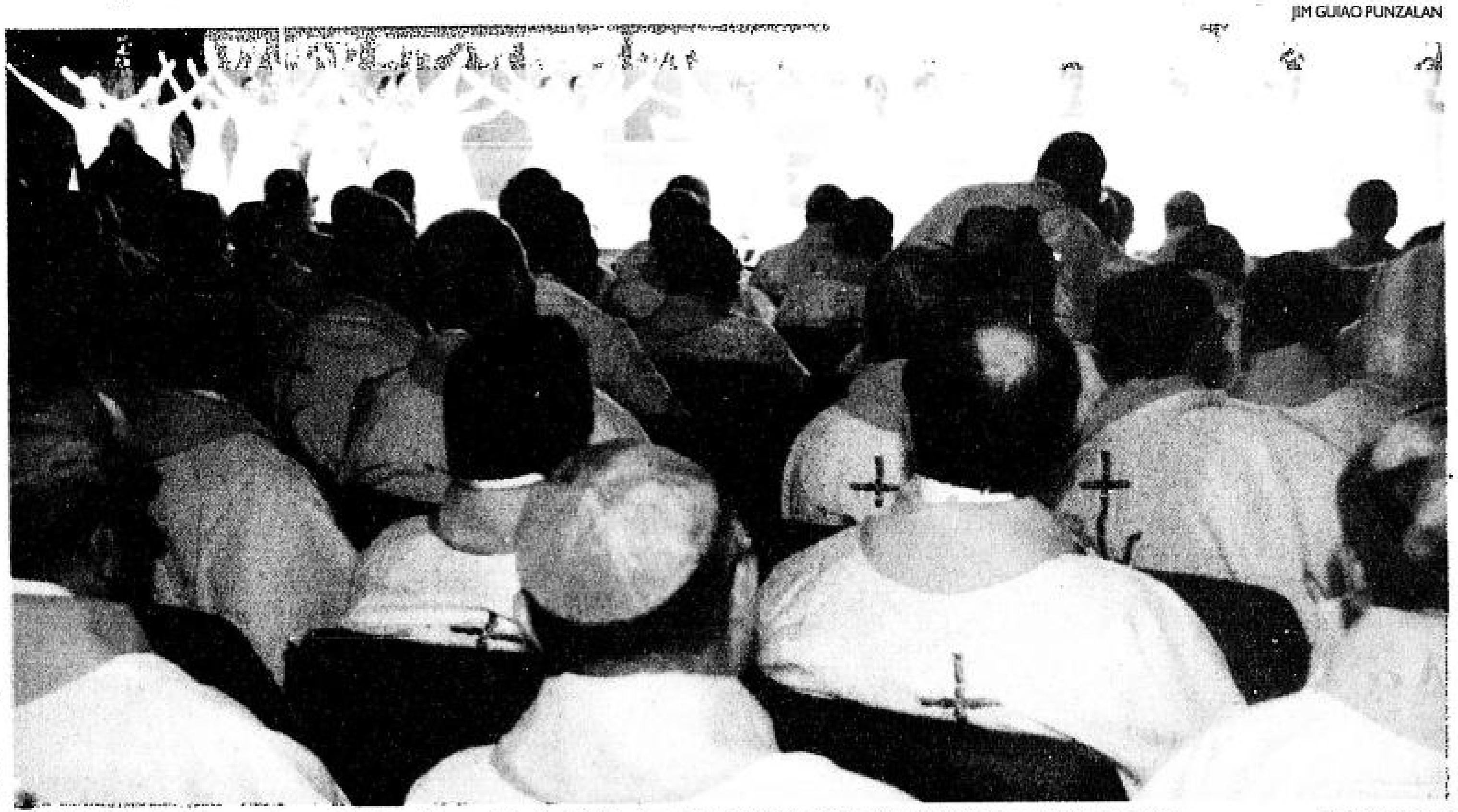
Magkawas Falls and Park, and Lanuza Marine Sanctuary, which are a walking distance from each other.

There is also river cruising and a visit to the series of caves in the nearby forest. Spanish ancestral homes also dot some streets, famous of which is the well-kept "White House."

**PAPUA** New Guinea delegate Jacinta Aimi gets a taste of Filipino hospitality from a staff member of the gathering of global families.
ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

**CEBU** delegates, Ricardo and Pricella Gealon, and their five children listen to the Pope's message delivered live from the Vatican.
JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

**INTERFAITH** forum on the Filipino family results in resolutions of understanding and solidarity.
JOAN BONDOC



**DANCE**, another form of worship, is performed by the Philippine Ballet interpreting the significance of the meeting.
EDWIN BACASMAS

# Pope: Let marriage be the good news

From page A1

of religious members, ranging from Franciscan friars who were garbed in their brown habits to members of Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity who wore their white saris.

"Christian couples, be good news for the third millennium by bearing convincing and consistent witness to the truth about the family," the Pope said.

He acknowledged that marriage is full of challenges but assured the faithful that "on this journey you are not alone; Jesus is always present at your side."

The Pope said the grace people receive in marriage remains with them through the years but that such grace is dependent on "self-sacrificing love." This love is not always easy because "daily life is full of pitfalls, tensions, suffering and even fatigue."

### Visibly weak Pope

The congregation at the Rizal Park had their eyes fixed on the three huge video walls at the Quirino Grandstand as the Pope delivered his message in a halting voice. Many of the elderly and the nuns were seen wiping their tears upon seeing a visibly weak Pope.

The Pope delivered his message from the Vatican's Clementine Room. Several Filipino families in Rome were invited to sit with him for yesterday's live telecast.

The satellite feed from Rome began at 6 p.m.

The sight of the Pope on the huge television screens at the Quirino Grandstand immediately elicited hearty applause from the delegates.

They chanted: "John Paul II, we love you."

He greeted them: *"Mabuhay!"*

### Testimonials

With the Pope listening from his end in Rome, several families from all over the world, including from the Philippines, gave testimonials and pledged to spread the good news of the Christian family in their countries.

An Indian couple gave a touching speech where they admitted that they were "sinners" and not worthy of the Gospel. They, however, vowed to speak of God's love when they go back to their country to tell others of God's love for the family.

In his message after the families' testimonials, the Pope said their experiences bring to mind his own experiences as a priest, as an archbishop of Krakow and his nearly 25 years of papacy.

### Meaningful experience

He urged Christian families "to show by your daily lives that despite numerous difficulties and obstacles, marriage is able to be fully lived out as a meaningful experience and as a good news for the men and women of today."

"Be leaders in the Church and in the world: this is a responsibility flowing from your celebration of the Sacrament of Matrimony, from your being a domestic church, and from the marital mission which is yours as the primary cells of society."

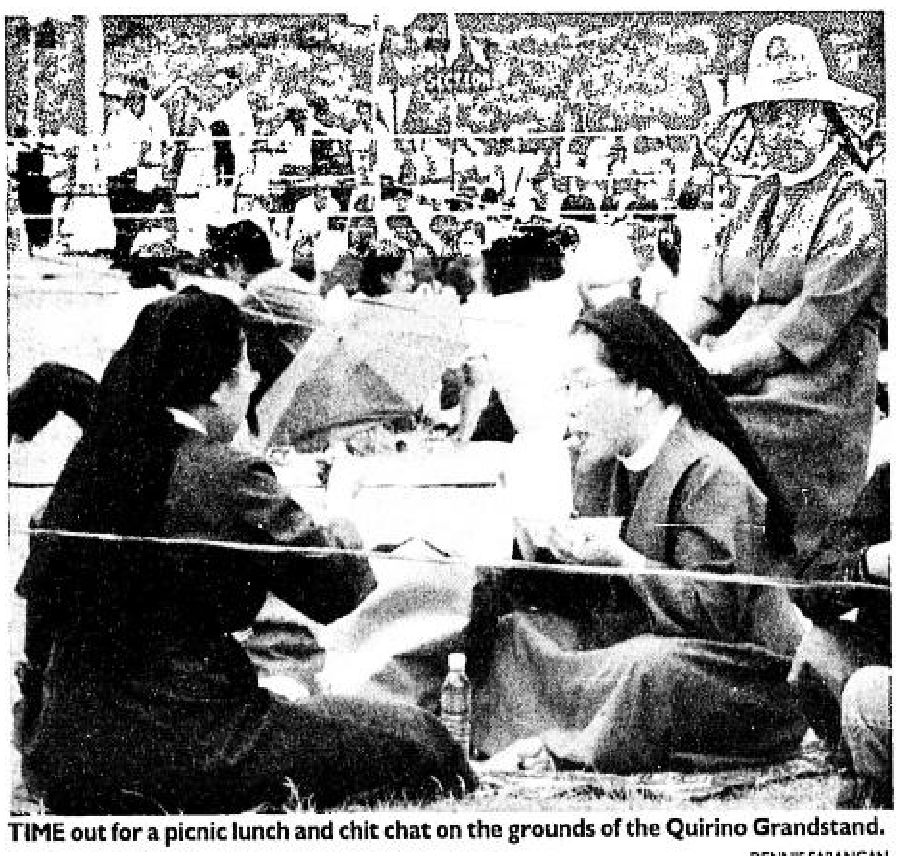
He also reminded the congregation that "family prayer" and "Marian devotion" through praying of the rosary are effective means of keeping their families united.

The Pope announced that the next meeting of families will be held in Valencia, Spain in 2006.

### Fiesta atmosphere

A 10-minute fireworks display ended the formal program as the San Miguel Philharmonic Orchestra played the event's theme song "Only Selfless Love."

This was followed by an overnight vigil. The participants at the Quirino Grandstand were kept awake by stream of performances by the country's leading singers and performers.



**TIME** out for a picnic lunch and chit chat on the grounds of the Quirino Grandstand.
DENNIS SABANGAN

The five-day Fourth World Meeting of Families will be capped by the celebration of a mass by the Papal Legate Cardinal Lopez Trujillo at 7 a.m. at the Quirino Grandstand today. Concelebrating the mass are 1,000 priests and bihsops led by Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin and Ricardo Cardinal Vidal. *With reports from Blanche Rivera and Philip Tubeza*

# World families meet is hell for motorists

From page A1

vor, motorists threw curses as they got trapped in the gridlock for as long as two hours.

Many blamed the organizers and the police for not immediately announcing the traffic rerouting plan for the celebrations.

"*Palpak talaga. Mabuti kung usad pagong, eh ang tagal talaga bago gumalaw* (It was a real mess. We were hardly moving, not even at a snail's pace)," said Ruth.

She took a taxi from her Tondo residence to her Makati office at 10 a.m. Her ride, which normally takes less than 30 minutes, turned into a two-hour ordeal.

"It could have been a longer ride; thank goodness my taxi driver and I knew several side streets," she said.

"The cab driver asked how long the Luneta event would last. I told him that it was an overnight vigil and advised him not to make the mistake of passing through Manila the rest of the day," she said.

A police officer who left the Western Police District Station 4 in Sampaloc at 1 p.m. arrived at the WPD Station 5 in Ermita at 3 p.m.

### Communication failure

The gridlock was apparently caused by the failure of authorities to widely disseminate the traffic rerouting plan which included the closure of streets within the vicinity of the Rizal Park. Areas closed to traffic included Roxas Boulevard from Quirino Avenue to Anda Circle, T.M. Kalaw Street and P. Burgos from Ma. Orosa to Roxas Boulevard.

The media got hold of a copy of the rerouting plan from the WPD Traffic Bureau late Thursday afternoon and only because one reporter sought it out. The plan failed to make it to the printing deadline of most newspapers.

Traffic yesterday was heavy in Liwasang Bonifacio, Ayala Boulevard, Mabini Street, Quiapo, Morayta, España, Quezon Boulevard, Nagtahan Bridge, Osmeña Highway near Plaza Dilao, M.H. del Pilar Street, UN Avenue, Padre Faura Street and Taft Avenue from Quirino to Lawton.

"Drivers did not have alternative routes because traffic was heavy in all streets," a driver said.

The absence of a truck ban made the situation worse. Huge 10-wheeled trucks competed for space in the constricted streets.

### Security tight at Luneta

Like the traffic, security was very tight at the Quirino Grandstand.

As of 5 p.m., police estimated the crowd at 300,000.

The WPD deployed 1,540 policemen in uniform and civilian clothing for the event.

The WPD was expecting an additional 2,000 policemen from the National Capital Region Police Office to secure the area.

Hundreds of volunteers also cordoned off the grounds in front of the Quirino Grandstand.

### Detectors bog down

Participants to the overnight vigil had to pass through two metal detectors to get into the cordoned-off area. But the detectors later bogged down after being exposed under the sun for too long.

Chief Insp. Hugo Amorillo, WPD operations chief, said that as a result, the delegates had to be screened thrice before they were allowed to get into the activity area.

"The delegates were complaining that we were too strict. But we have to do that to avoid any untoward incident," Amorillo said.

Police confiscated sharp items and even bottled drinks and ketchup containers.

"We have to confiscate bottles that could be broken. It's either they drink the softdrink or they leave it with us. We will return it once they leave the area," Amorillo said.

There were no reports of pickpockets and other petty crimes at the park.

"We have uniformed and undercover policemen everywhere. And there are the volunteers," Amorillo said.

Bomb-sniffing dogs and the WPD bomb squad made sure the area was free from explosives.

### Anti-war ralliers held

Four seminarians and two lay persons who were members of the militant church group Kairos were brought to the WPD headquarters for investigation after they suddenly unfurled anti-war banners in the middle of the crowd.

Other members of the Kairos massed up in front of the WPD headquarters at 7 p.m. to protest the arrest of their colleagues.

The demonstrators were later released by the police.

### Vendors cash in

Luneta Park teemed not just with Catholic delegates and policemen but also vendors who came to cash in on the celebration.

They sold food and drinks, T-shirts, fans, calendars and bags with the World Meeting of Families logo, and pictures of Pope John Paul II.

A calendar sold for P25, bags for P35, and shirts from P100 to P125.

The vendors said sales were low.

They expected more buyers this morning, when the closing Mass will be held.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2003

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Sunday Sports

E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Al S. Mendoza © Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

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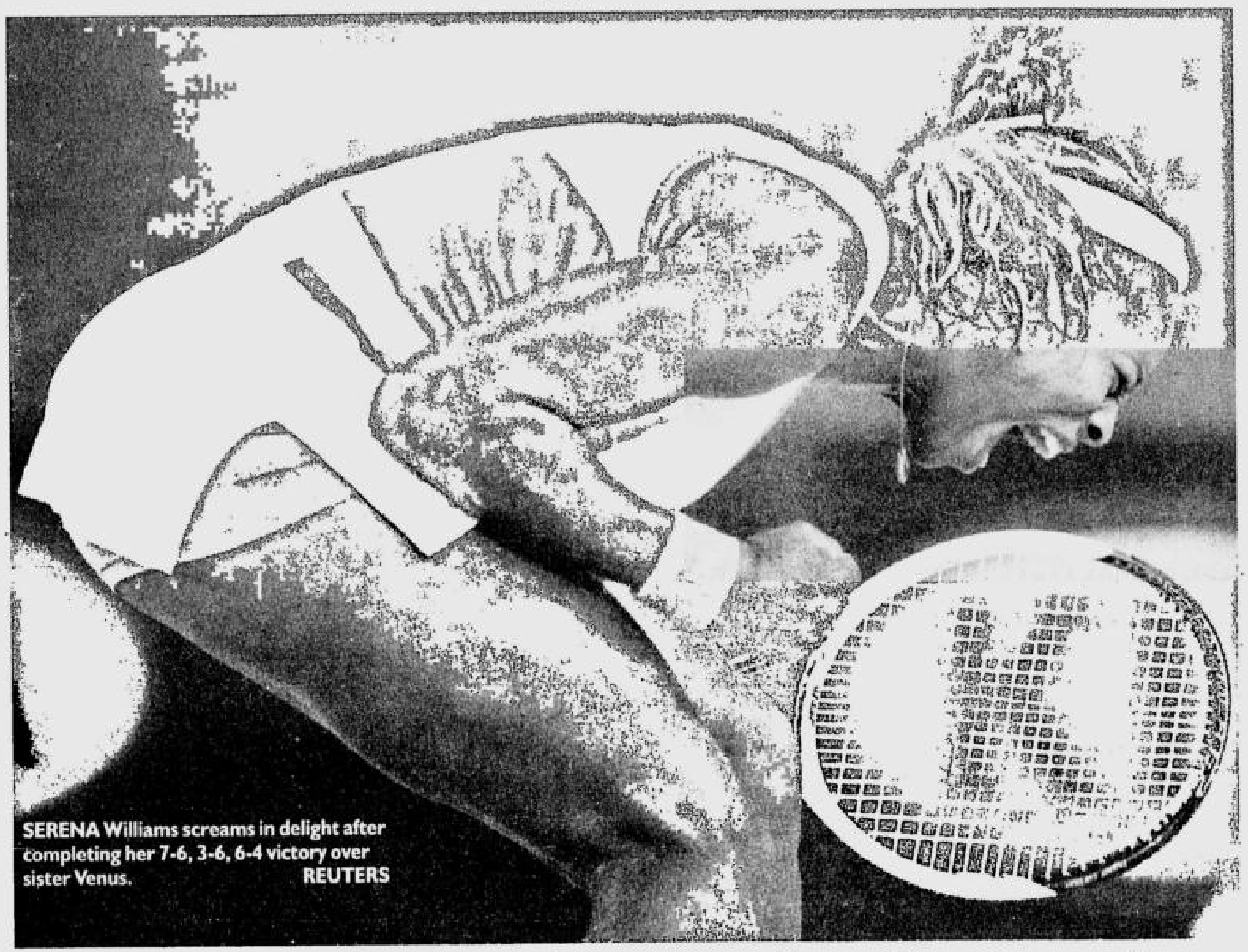
## AUSTRALIAN OPEN

# Serena clips sis, completes 'Slam'



SERENA Williams screams in delight after completing her 7-6, 3-6, 6-4 victory over sister Venus. REUTERS

**By Phil Brown**
*AP Writer*

**MELBOURNE, Australia—Serena Slam or Sister Slam–no matter what you call it, Serena Williams is truly grand.**

Williams survived an error-filled match to beat elder sister Venus 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-4 Saturday to win the Australian Open for her fourth straight major championship.

Serena added another Grand Slam title to the French Open, US Open and Wimbledon crowns she won last year, all against her sister.

### Kisses

After Venus slumped through four straight errors in the final game, the sisters met at the net to put their arms around each other's shoulders and whisper in each other's ears. While Serena blew kisses to the crowd, Venus applauded with her racket.

"I never get choked up, but I'm really emotional right now," Serena said at the trophy ceremony.

On the verge of tears, she added: "I'm really, really, really happy. I'd like to thank my mom and my dad for helping me."

Venus, who at 22 is 15 months older than Serena, paid tribute to her sister.

"I wish I could have been the winner. But of course you have a great champion in Serena and she has won all four Grand Slams, which is something I'd love to do one day," she said.

"So, yeah, I'd kind of like to be just like her," she said.

"I don't want to be just a player who won four Grand Slams whether she wins five or 15," Venus added. "Look at those players who won 20. I still have a long way to go and not much time."

Venus, who had been swept in straight sets in her previous three matches against Serena, had her chances this time.

Ahead 5-4 in the first set, she served to close it out—only to have Serena come back to win.

Serena now holds a 5-4 career edge over Venus in major titles and also owns a 6-5 lead in head-to-head matches. Serena collected US$654,000 for this victory and Venus won US$327,000.

This marked only the sixth time a woman has held all four of tennis' major championships at the same time, and the first since Steffi Graf in 1994.

"I just can't believe I can now be compared to these women," Serena said of Graf, Margaret Court, Maureen Connolly and Martina Navratilova. Graf, Court and Connolly have won true slams — all four in one calendar year — and Navratilova has held all four titles at once.

"They're such greats and I don't known if I'll accomplish everything they have but to even be in the category of winning four in a row is for me really amazing, it's something I've always dreamed of and wanted to do," Serena added.

To do it, Serena had to beat her sister, best friend and practice partner each time. The Williams siblings are the first two women in Grand Slam history to square off in four consecutive finals.

While the tennis wasn't always brilliant, the Australian Open final did offer more intrigue than its three predecessors.

There were junctures, particularly in the second and third sets where both sisters chased down balls and slugged them with speed and power that no other woman can display.

Unlike at Roland Garros, the All England Club or Flushing Meadows in the series of all-in-the-family finals, there were a match's worth of long rallies, with brilliance from both sides of the net.

Both seemed to invest more of themselves emotionally than in previous encounters, with fist pumping, eyes rolling, and plenty of grunts on strokes.

And Venus took a set off little sis for the first time since beating Serena in the US Open final in September 2001 — which was the first all-sibling Grand Slam championship match since the Watson sisters played at Wimbledon in 1884.

Now it's become rather routine.

Throughout the 2-hour, 22 minute match, Serena showed how intent she was on winning. Even so, Venus tested her more than in their previous three matches, which Serena won in straight sets.

### Racket

After losing her serve for 4-5, Serena threw her racket.

In the first-set tiebreaker, she took a ball she thought was out and hit a forehand past Venus, who had stopped playing.

Then she turned on the line judge and shouted, "You just don't call them out, do you?"

After failing to cash in five break points in the final set's eighth game, Serena gave her sister a game point with a netted forehand and slammed down her racket.

Serena had 54 errors to Venus' 51, but beat her 37-28 on winners.

# Agassi vs 'grinning underdog' today

AUSTRALIAN OPEN
PATH TO THE FINAL

Andre Agassi and Rainer Schuettler go head-to-head in the Australian Open final on Sunday

2-Andre Agassi
*U.S.*
Age: 32

31-Rainer Schuettler
*Germany*
Age: 26

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brian Vahaly<br>*U.S.* | 7-5 6-3 6-3 | First Round | 6-3 6-2 6-0 | Albert Portas<br>*Spain* |
| Lee Hyung-taik<br>*South Korea* | 6-1 6-0 6-0 | Second Round | 6-3 7-5 6-4 | Richard Krajicek<br>*Netherlands* |
| 29-Nicolas Escude<br>*France* | 6-2 3-6 6-3 6-4 | Third Round | walkover<br>(did not play) | 3-Marat Safin<br>*Russia* |
| Guillermo Coria<br>*Argentina* | (retired) 6-1 3-1 | Fourth Round | 6-3 6-4 1-6 6-3 | 23-James Blake<br>*U.S.* |
| 12-Sebastien Grosjean<br>*France* | 6-3 6-2 6-2 | Quarter-Finals | 6-3 5-7 6-1 6-0 | 10-David Nalbandian<br>*Argentina* |
| Wayne Ferreira<br>*South Africa* | 6-2 6-2 6-3 | Semi-Finals | 7-5 2-6 6-3 6-3 | 9-Andy Roddick<br>*U.S.* |

*Prefix number denotes seeding

REUTERS

MELBOURNE, Australia—Rainer Schuettler is playing a familiar role as he prepares for Sunday's Australian Open final against Andre Agassi—that of the grinning underdog.

"There's no pressure for me, even less pressure than the last matches," Schuettler said, after picking off a wounded Andy Roddick in Friday's semifinal. "He's a huge favorite but maybe I have a small chance.

"Maybe (Agassi) eats something wrong the day before, then I have a chance."

This approach has worked before. A year ago Thomas Johansson started a long outsider against Marat Safin and won in four sets.

But Agassi isn't Safin. His mind is on center court and not the nightclubs.

Agassi, seeded No. 2 to Schuettler's No. 31, is quoted at 1-8 to win his fourth Australian Open and eighth slam title in 14 finals. Schuettler is 9-2 to cause a boil over but Agassi, the son of a croupier, understands that odds guarantee nothing.

"It would be an unfortunate thing if you could sit in your home or hotel room and phone in the result because sports wouldn't be what it is if you could," Agassi said.

"You've got to come out and play and you got to come out and earn it. Regardless of how many times you've done it, it's still a job that needs to get done."

So far Agassi, 32, has approached his job thoughtfully and mechanically. He has spent 23 minutes longer on court than the 26-year-old Schuettler, but the German played one fewer match after Marat Safin gave him a walkover.

Agassi came here, for his 50th Grand Slam, in peak physical shape, eschewing indulgence over the holiday season and tackling a strict fitness regime with trainer Gil Reyes.

"You know it's not easy to come down here very prepared but it sure beats the alternative," Agassi said.

"Things do get more difficult the older you get. But, overall, I feel like I've gotten stronger."

Schuettler, too, worked hard, taking just two weeks off before resuming a rigorous schedule. He combines martial arts, running and weights with instruction from a former Olympic taekwondo champion.

His fitness was superior to Roddick on Friday as the American failed to bounce back from a five-hour epic against Younes El Aynaoui. But it's hard to see him edging the driven Agassi. *AP*

# Dayrit is OCA vice prexy

KUWAIT—Philippine Olympic Committee president Celso L. Dayrit gained a major sports achievement here Saturday when he was elected vice-president of the Olympic Council of Asia.

This is the highest position a Filipino sports leader has ever attained in the continental association of National Olympic Committees which was founded 52 years ago in New Delhi, India.

Dayrit has become the only third Filipino to hold the third highest post in the world Olympic Movement, the top two being the late Don Jorge B. Vargas and Francisco J. Elizalde, who have both been named members of the International Olympic Committee.

It will be recalled that Dayrit was recently elected first chair of the newly constituted SEA Games Federation Executive Committee which is the SEAGF's governing body.

Dayrit also holds the distinction of being the only certified Filipino International Director of the Olympic solidarity Itinerant Administration School for Sports Leaders.

## RACING TIPS

### AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Magara 2. Chichana/Norma's Pet 3. Black and White 4. Zenie's Pride
Race 2--1. Cool Clay 2. Golden Sunshine 3. Gladness 4. Truly Ajay 5. Bull Treasure
Race 3--1. Golden Eagle 2. Kitty Hawk 3. Heavenly
Race 4--1. Time Gentleman 2. Gutmoore 3. Catwalk Pia 4. Lucky Dancer 5. Morena
Race 5--1. Windlass 2. Red Rose 3. Selectee 4. Read My Mind 5. Diplomatic Bull
Race 6--1. Lyonnais 2. Hyperbid 3. Silver Story
Race 7--1. Real Gem 2. Gentleman's Copy 3. Wings to Fly/Mu Aday 4. Samahan 5. Run Like D Wind
Race 8--1. Burning Light 2. Miss Anapat 3. Spinning Bullet 4. Patikim
Race 9--1. Reporter 2. Lady Magallanes 3. Southern Charm 4. Bridegroom 5. Hezagone Babes
Race 10--1. Little Sam 2. Letshaveaparty 3. Gleaming Heart 4. Robyn Always 5. Bull Strike
Race 11--1. Hello Paul 2. Michael's Way 3. Silver Angel 4. Southern Skies 5. Ocean Dignity
Race 12--1. Korek Ka Dyan 2. Aprey Special 3. Ocean Menary 4. Tender Value 5. Endjoy D View
Race 13--1. Bukambibig 2. Better Harry 3. Private Pedro 4. Silver Eagle 5. Point of Interest 6. Heza Gunner

# POC urged to support Asian track meet

**By Marc Anthony Reyes**

INTERNATIONAL Olympic Committee representative Frank Elizalde yesterday urged the Philippine Olympic Committee to throw its support to the Asian athletics championships slated this September.

Elizalde said the event, which will be launched tomorrow with the country's top sports officials in attendance, can be a unifying factor not only for the POC family but also for the whole nation which is trying to stand up against economic hardships and threats of terrorism.

"Due to the worldwide negative write-ups, the Philippines is given a chance to show a positive image. It's worth all the expense and it will help create a balance," said Elizalde.

Athletics chief Go Teng Kok said the Philippines will send a crack team in the event which will go up against world-class athletes from China, Korea, Japan, middle east and the former Soviet republics.

GO TENG KOK

Other national sports association heads also backed up the event led by taekwondo's Robert Aventajado, weightlifting's Rep. Monico Puentevella, tennis' Buddy Andrada, judo's Reynaldo Jaylo, chess' Florencio Campomanes, basketball's Tiny Literal and Graham Lim and sepak takraw's Mario Tanchanco.

"This should gauge our capability as a nation to host big-time sporting events," said Aventajado, who is also the chair of the POC. "It's a dry-run for the 2005 Southeast Asian Games."

Puentevella, the chair of the House committee on youth and sports, said the event could generate interest in business and tourism which is what the country needs.

"Regardless of sports discipline, this is an endeavor by the whole nation. So we must all help make it a success because it won't only make track and field look good but all of Philippine sports as well," said Puentevella.

Other NSAs pitching for the trackfest are football's Rene Adad, table tennis' Vic Valbuena, cycling's Jun Regalado and Manding Bautista, pencak Silat's Sultan Kiram, wrestling's Gen. Manuel Ribo, karate's Ed Ponce, golf's Rod Feliciano, triathlon's Tom Carrasco, billiards' Joaquin de Tagle and soft tennis' Tony Tamayo and Peter Gaisano.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

**PUYAT WITH CHILEAN SPORTSMEN**

Former two-time FIBA (World Basketball Federation) president and Philippine Olympic Committee first vice-president Gonzalo "Lito" Puyat II shakes hands with Chile Olympic Committee president Fernando Eitel Polloni (left) and Dr. Gerardo Rocha, president and founder of Chile's University of Santo Tomas in a recent meeting in Santiago, Chile. The two Chilean sportsmen discussed with Puyat, who visited Chile on the invitation of his sister, Philippine Ambassador Consuelo Puyat-Reyes, the possibility of launching a sports program that would be beneficial to athletes of both countries.

## PBL CHALLENGE

# 1 win to go for Welcoat 5

**GAMES TOMORROW** *(Pasig Sports Center)*
2:30 p.m.—Achievement awards
3:00 p.m.—LBC vs Blu (for 3rd)
5:00 p.m.—Dazz vs Welcoat (championship)

**By Dennis Eroa**

**LIPA CITY—Hardworking Eddie Laure made a huge defensive stop in the dying seconds as Welcoat escaped with another cliffhanger over Dazz, 65-63, and moved to within a win of sweeping the PBL Challenge Cup title series last night at the La Salle Sentrum here.**

Laure, who plays bigger and faster than his 6-foot-3 frame, snuffed the life out of Dazz when he blocked Allan Salangsang's desperation trey to give the Paintmasters a commanding 2-0 lead in the best-of-five championship series.

The Paintmasters, who overcame an 18-point third quarter deficit to win Game One, 77-68, in overtime last Thursday in Lucena City, aim for the sweep tomorrow as the series returns to the Pasig Sports Center.

"Somebody must step up," said Laure, the biggest name to emerge from Adamson University since the time of premier pointguard Hector Calma and high-flying Kenneth Duremdes.

Coach Leo Austria, on the threshold of his third PBL title, said it will be wonderful to post a sweep, but is not going to relax, knowing that Welcoat still needs to win a game.

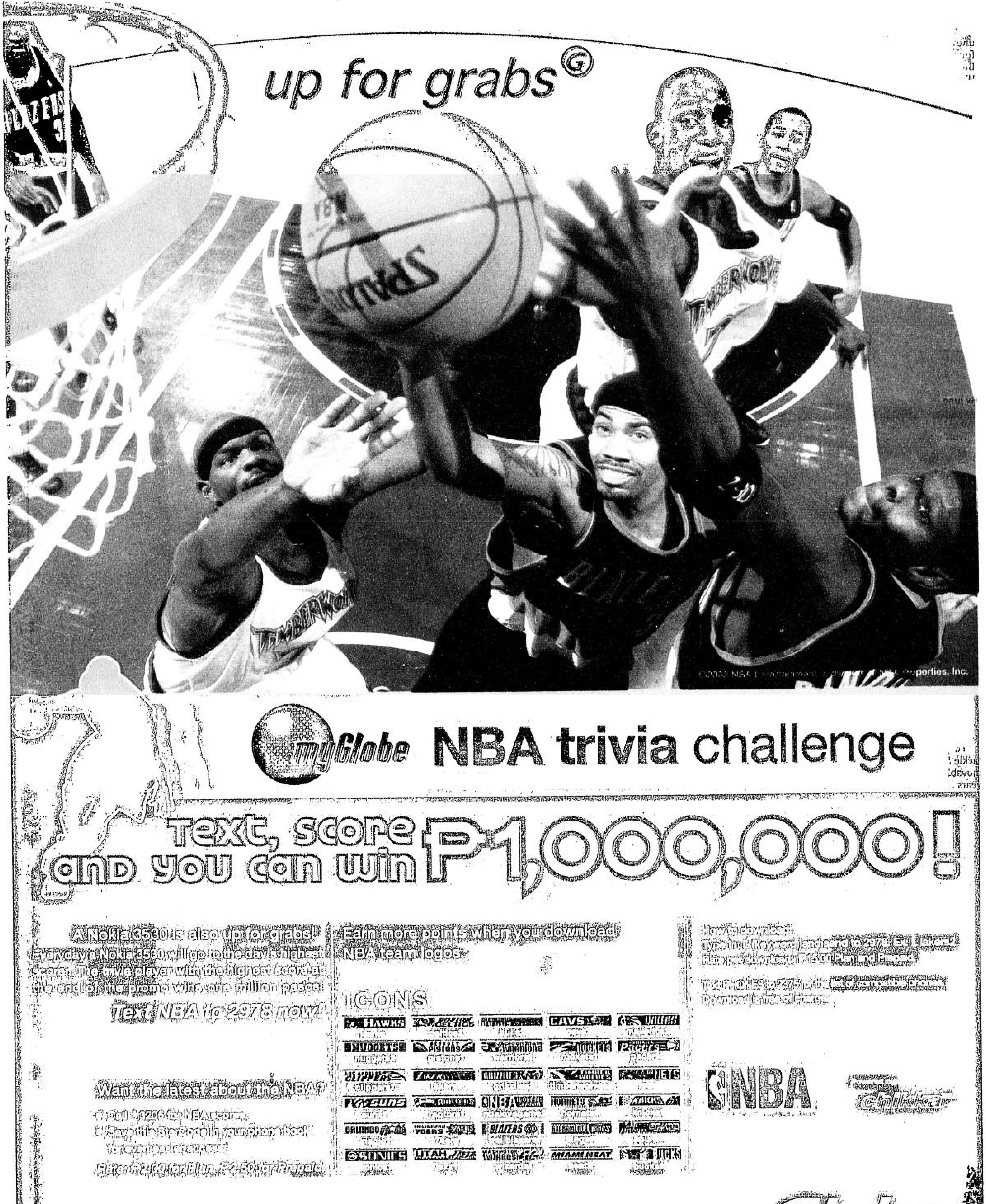
"We haven't achieved anything yet," said Austria, who was hugged tightly by rival Junel Baculi at the height of the Paintmasters celebration.

Dazz nearly duplicated Welcoat's escape act in Game One when the Sparklers rallied mightily from seven points down in the final 1:17, 54-61 to threaten at 63-64 on Jun Simon's two gift shots, fouled at the three-point area by Laure.

Coach Junel Baculi's charges even had the golden chance to send the series back to square one when they got ball possession, with 6.9 seconds remaining.

Cyrus Baguio made the inbound to Eugene Tan, and gave it to the struggling John Ferriols, who was well-covered. After hesitating, Ferriols found Salangsang at the right flank to make the winning shot only to be rejected by Laure, who was mobbed by his teammates for the defensive gem.

Just like in the first game, Romel Adducul, playing as is he just went out of the hospital bed, started slow, but recovered at the end, inspiring his teammates with his fourth quarter explosion.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### CHICAGO VISIT

# Jordan sent out a loser

**By Nancy Armour**
*AP Sports Writer*

**CHICAGO—This wasn't the way Michael Jordan wanted to leave.**

Oh, sure, he got the thunderous ovation that lasted four minutes, the cheers growing louder with each minute. And the entire game was a lovefest, with adoring signs throughout the arena, flashbulbs popping each time he touched the ball and fans cheering his every move.

It had all the makings of a perfect farewell to Chicago — except his old team sent him out a loser in the building where he once ruled the NBA.

Marcus Fizer scored all but one of his 18 points in the fourth quarter as the Chicago Bulls beat Jordan and the Washington Wizards 104-97 on Friday night. It was Jordan's first loss to his old team in the five times he's faced them.

And he wasn't happy about it. Though he got a standing ovation when he left with 8.1 seconds left, he hurried off the court at the buzzer. He left so quickly he used the home team's exit, taking the route he took so many times when he was with the Bulls.

He finished with 11 points, but was just 4-of-14 from the floor in 39 minutes. He also had three assists and five rebounds.

Even worse, his team struggled on defense, a hallmark of Jordan's game. The Bulls shot 53 percent, and Fizer dominated them inside in the fourth quarter. He scored Chicago's first 11 points of the quarter, all but one on hook shots or layups.

Still, Jordan and the Wizards almost pulled it out at the end. Trailing 97-87, they reeled off eight straight points, capped by four from Jordan.

In New York, Dirk Nowitzki netted 30 points and grabbed nine rebounds as the Dallas Mavericks won in New York for the first time since 1990, rallying to edge the Knicks 101-90.

Teammate Michael Finley added 20 more for Dallas, which improved to a league-best 15-6 on the road.

Latrell Sprewell was best among the Knicks with 21 points, with Kurt Thomas pitching in with 17.

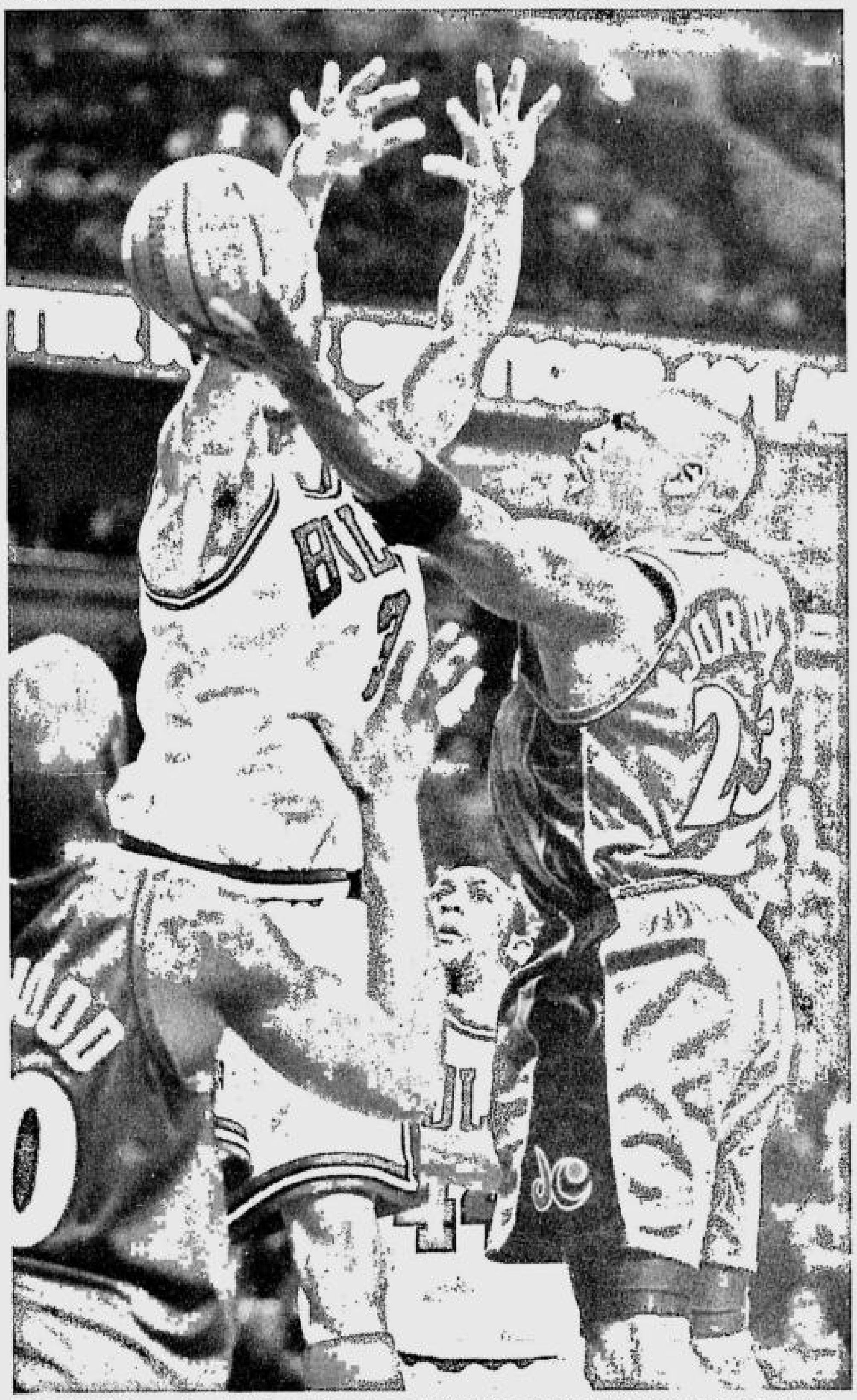
In Los Angeles, the New Jersey Nets got a measure of revenge for last year's sweep in the NBA finals as they outlasted the Lakers 89-83.

Kenyon Martin had 18 points and nine rebounds to lead New Jersey, with both Shaquille O'Neal and Derek Fisher topping 20 for Los Angeles.

The Lakers' Kobe Bryant was held to just 11 points on 4-of-14 shooting; he had been averaging more than 27 points per outing.

**COMPLETE RESULTS**

Indiana 93, Seattle 80; Phoenix 110, Orlando 107; Atlanta 115, Sacramento 104; Boston 77, Denver 58; Dallas 101, New York 90; Chicago 104, Washington 97 Minnesota 88, LA Clippers 85; Detroit 98, Houston 74; Portland 97, New Orleans 96 (OT); San Antonio 91, Utah 90; New Jersey 89, LA Lakers 83



**JORDAN (23) goes for a left-handed layup against Chicago's Tyson Chandler. The Bulls won, 104-97.** AFP

# Concepcions set to defend Shaw crown

TWO hundred teams led by the defending champion father-and-son tandem of Angel and Robert Concepcion are seeing action in the 14th annual Bill Shaw Memorial Golf Classic presented by Samsung on Jan. 31 to Feb. 1 at the east and west courses of the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club.

The Concepcions made history as the first family combination to capture the top plum in the 36-hole tourney which is Wack Wack's member-guest tournament.

The teams of former congressman Peping Cojuangco-Reginald Peña and Robert Yang-Johnny Litton, winners of Group I and Group II last year, are also returning to seek another victory in the event also backed by Golforce, Custom Clubmakers and Unilever Philippines as major sponsors.

Marlon Dizon, winner of last year's low gross plum with Miguel Tuason, has already turned pro.

Five companies are putting up an attractive hole-in-one package. They are Toyota Otis, Mitsubishi Motors Phils., Kart Plaza, Kymco and Bulgari watches.

Hole sponsors are Pacific Paint & Oil,Mfg., Citra Metro Tollways, Synergymed, PLDT, PCSO, Beauty Exponents, PICP, Gema Coco Food Corp., Matsushita Phils., GG&A Clubshares, Atty. Gilberto Duavit, Immuvit Multi-Vitamins, Standard Chartered Bank, Del Monte, GNC, Gatorade, Pacsports, Forest Hills, Air Philippines, Discovery Suites, The South Spa, Nestle Phils. and The Plaza.

Registration for the event ends at noon today (Sunday, January 26). Late submissions will be subject to the tournament committee's approval. December board handicaps will be used for the member and his guest partner.

The entry fee of P6,000 is already inclusive of the giveaways (Nike shoes and Dry Fit Shirts), practice rounds, 2 buckets of balls at the driving range per day, free breakfast and lunch, among others. Formats will be scramble at the east course and aggregate at the west.

## SPORTSTV

**Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat**

BASKETBALL: NBA - Golden State vs Utah, 11:30 a.m. (r - 10 p.m.), Solar Sports
16th ABC Championship for Junior Women 2002, 9 p.m. (r), Star Sports
BOXING: WBC/ WBA Welterweight World Championship - Forrest vs Mayorga, 8 p.m., IBC 13
TENNIS: Australian Open, 2 p.m., Solar Sports
POOL: 2002 Wheelchair Billiards, 5 p.m., ESPN
2002 Women's Tournament of Champions, 8 p.m., ESPN
Rack 'Em Up, 9 p.m., Star Sports
GOLF: PGA Phoenix Open, 4 p.m. (r - 10 p.m.), Star Sports
PGA - The Making of a Tournament, 10:30 p.m., ESPN
ICE SKATING: 2002 State Farm US Figure Skating Championship, 11:30 a.m. (r), ESPN

# NBN eyes parallel broadcast of PBA games

**By June Navarro**

PARALLEL broadcasting.

NBN-4 is eyeing this broadcast concept with IBC-13 when both government stations begin their coverage of the Philippine Basketball Association games next month.

Under the proposal, IBC-13 will air the games on a magnitude similar to the coverage done by Studio 23 during the UAAP basketball wars last year.

While IBC-13 adopts the Studio 23 framework of attracting high-end advertisers and employing upcoming television analysts, NBN-4 is targeting the market, which will cater to fans from all walks of life.

In gist, IBC-13's PBA coverage has a target audience belonging to the A and B classes of society while NBN-4 will televise the games almost similar to the coverage done by Viva-Vintage.

"Simulcast broadcasting is not really that effective on cultivating the market," said a source privy to the talks.

NBN-4 and IBC-13 will still broadcast the games live on a simultaneous basis but are deadset on scrapping the proposed simulcast airing of the PBA.

"It is one of the options to widen the market of the PBA. But both parties are looking closely on the financial drawback of the project," the source added.

To put parallel broadcasting into action, NBN-4 must augment its equipment by using two OB vans instead of one per playing day, eventually jacking up the expenses of the two stations.

IBC-13 vice president Philip Ella Juico, however, said parallel broadcasting is a far more viable concept than airing the games identically on both stations.

"It's definitely a better option. It's like having two products on one property," said Juico, former chairman of the Philippine Sports Commission.

Juico added: "The doubling of production expenses is only relevant if you have other use for airtime. But since the airtime is committed to the PBA then the expenses become irrelevant."

# Super Bowl: No. 1 vs No. 1

SAN DIEGO—For all the intriguing match-ups through 36 Super Bowls, the one that never occurred was No. 1 vs. No. 1. On Sunday, that changes.

The Oakland Raiders' dynamic, ultradangerous offense that has trampled nearly everyone faces the Tampa Bay Buccaneers' miserly defense, which has stymied almost everybody. It is a confrontation so juicy, so delicious, that the players are looking forward to it as much as the rest of America.

"I'd pay to see it," said Raiders defensive tackle Sam Adams, who knows all about immovable objects — he won a Super Bowl two years ago with the stingy Baltimore Ravens. "No. 1 vs. No. 1. Who could ask for more?"

Not the viewing public, which eagerly anticipates watching Defensive Player of the Year Derrick Brooks against NFL MVP Rich Gannon. Jerry Rice, merely the most accomplished receiver in history, against Brian Kelly, the league leader in interceptions. Frank Middleton, the mouthy 330-pound (148.5-kilogram) former Buccaneer, trying to block Warren Sapp, the mouthy, 300-pound (135-kilogram) All-Pro Buccaneers defensive tackle.

"We're like an inferno, more heat than you can stand," Sapp said, gesturing as if flames were rising around him. "It's like we have guys running around with one gallon of gasoline in their pockets and then setting it off."

Oooooooh!

Want more? How about Charlie Garner, the Raiders' versatile, hard-charging tailback, and John Lynch, the Buccaneers' venerable hard-hitting strong safety?

"It's only fitting to have the top offense against the top defense," Lynch said. "I consider this the best year ever in the NFL, with all the wild stuff and overtime games. And then, for the first time, you have this."

You also have Al Davis, the maverick owner of the Raiders, and the Glazers, the virtually anonymous owners of the Buccaneers. It was Davis who extracted two first-round draft choices and two seconds, plus $8 million, from the Glazers a year ago to free Jon Gruden to skip from one pirate ship to another.

Gruden now coaches the Buccaneers, but he helped put together what has become a nearly unstoppable offensive machine in Oakland. *AP*

# Lewis-Tyson rematch likely

NEW YORK—Lennox Lewis says his next fight may be a rematch with Mike Tyson in June.

Talks for a proposed bout in April between Lewis and Vitali Klitschko have collapsed, Judd Burnstein, Lewis' attorney, said Friday.

Burnstein said Lewis will watch how Tyson does Feb. 22 against Clifford Etienne in Memphis.

"Now that there will be no April fight, Lennox has a contractual obligation to consider Mike Tyson as his June opponent and looks forward to seeing how Tyson performs in his February fight against Clifford Etienne," Burnstein said.

Lewis stopped Tyson in the eighth round of their much-anticipated heavyweight championship fight June 8, and neither fighter has fought since. Both fighters had a rematch clause in their contracts for that fight.

Lewis had been expected to defend his WBC heavyweight title against Klitschko, the organization's No. 1 contender. Lewis is under contract with HBO, and HBO officials said this week that Lewis was supposed to meet with them to plan his next fight.

That meeting, however, never came, and Burnstein's announcement Friday means that the 37-year-old Lewis will have gone a year between fights by the time he fights again in June. *AP*

# Fistorama 4-rounders on RPN-9

FISTORAMA today features two exciting four-rounders in the flyweight and lightweight divisions.

Larry Napire faces Carlo Agrabio at 112 pounds while Jun Talape fights Manny Arcenal at 109 pounds.

The fights were held last week at the state-of-the-art Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Taguig, Metro Manila. The popular weekly boxing show is produced by Joe Cantada Sports.

Starting in February, Fistorama will be aired in the United States, Australia and the Middle East through ABS-CBN's The Filipino Channel.

Fistorama, now on its fourth season, is aired every Sunday noon on RPN-9 and is brought to you by Cebu Pacific and Rogin-E.

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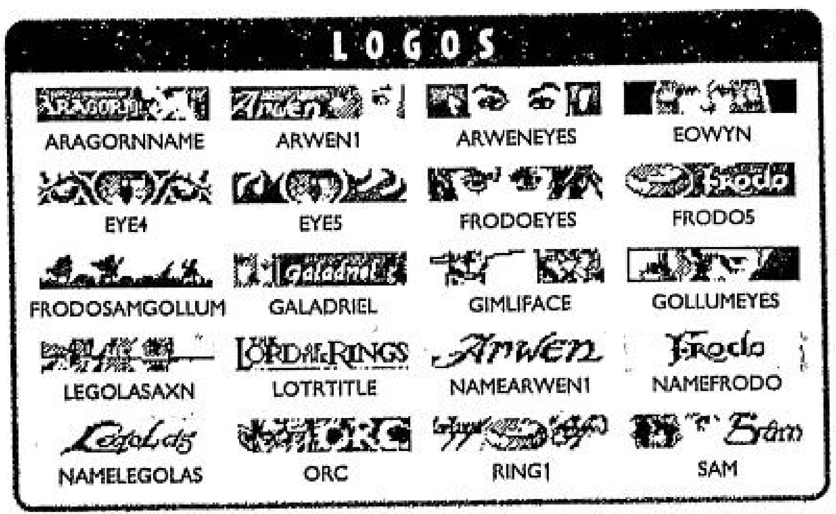
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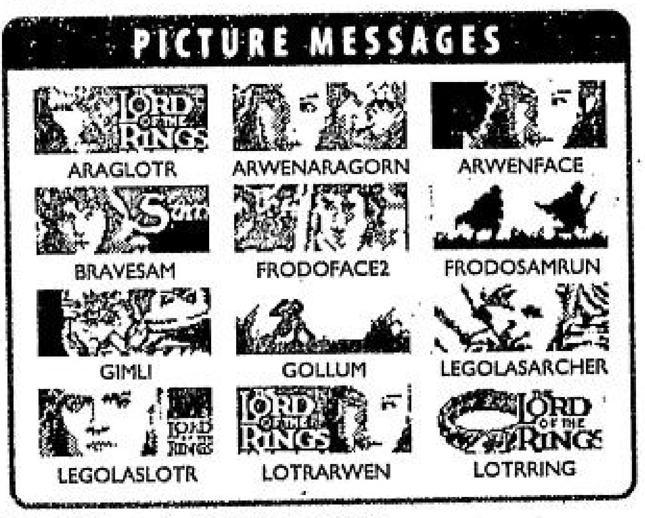
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# METRO

E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Louie C. Camino

**PRICES** of vegetables and other commodities have gone up since 2003 rolled in. A consumers group is now up in arms, demanding government to check the increase in the cost of goods. JESS YUSON

# Prices are killing us, consumers say

By Leila Salaverria

CONSUMERS are growing desperate with the relentless barrage of price hikes that has hit the country since 2003 rolled in.

This is according to consumer group Alerto Mamimili, who called on President Macapagal-Arroyo and the Department of Trade and Industry to implement measures that will keep in check the rapidly increasing prices of oil, basic commodities, water and electricity.

At the same time, the group warned that the consumers would resort to a series of mass actions until the prices go down.

Likening the price hikes to robbery, Alerto Mamimili spokesperson Lolita Donato castigated the government offices concerned for letting the big companies get away with the excessive pricing of goods.

"It's like waking up in the middle of the night to find robbers inside your home, and you are helpless in protecting your family against them," she said in a statement.

Donato also accused the government of acting as protector of big manufacturing companies.

PRICES/ A24

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# Forest park opens in urban sprawl

By Jerome Aning

MANILA'S controversial Arroceros Forest Park was partially opened to the public yesterday afternoon.

Former senator and education secretary Raul Roco, the guest speaker, extended his support for the park developer, Winner Foundation, when it opposed city government plans to erect a teachers' building in the area.

Roco underscored the importance of "green" areas in urban centers.

In some countries, he said, there are laws that set aside parts of a city as "green spaces."

"Progress should not be made at the cost of trees," Roco said. "Money is replaceable, trees aren't."

The former senator said the country's anti-logging laws forbid the cutting of all trees, except those specifically planted for commercial and industrial purposes.

Roco later planted a tree seedling as part of the second phase of the park's development, in which smaller vegetation are planted to prevent erosion of the forest floor.

Another guest, Vice Mayor Danilo Lacuna, asked Mayor Lito Atienza to spare the park and construct the teacher's building on a city-owned land adjacent to the park.

He also urged the environmentalists to continue appealing to the mayor to stop construction on the Arroceros park.

Winner president Regina Roces-Paterno said the foundation needs volunteers to help keep the park clean, enforce regulations and protect the trees.

Visitors can go to the park free of charge from Friday to Sunday every week.

The park will be opened for picnics, field trips, camping and bird-watching activities, and environmental workshops and seminars.

Smoking is prohibited in the park. Visitors are also warned against vandalizing the trees.

"Volunteers should be like forest rangers, teaching the visitors to love and care for the forest," Paterno said.

City Hall turned over the 2.1-hectare park in 1993 to Winner, which prepared a 15-year, four-phase development plan.

# Rival barangay chiefs to sit in Manila council

By Jerome Aning

MANILA councilors have reached a compromise on the messy issue involving two rival barangay league presidents who are both claiming their seats in the city council.

Councilor Carlos Castañeda, who is recognized by Mayor Lito Atienza and the majority aldermen, will be sitting in city council sessions with Natalio Beltran III, who is backed by the national barangay league.

The aldermen also passed a resolution urging the courts to decide on the cases stemming from the dispute.

The Council's president pro tempore, Alejandro "Kim" Atienza, told the INQUIRER that he hopes the compromise "will keep peace in the Council."

In the past, council sessions were marred by majority and minority aldermen bickering over who is the legitimate city league chief.

Atienza said that until the courts rule on the dispute, the two rivals will be allowed to sit in the Council.

But he said he and the majority aldermen will stick to their earlier resolution recognizing Castañeda as the legal league chief.

"Unless the courts rule otherwise, there will be a presumption of regularity of the Council's acts in recognizing Castañeda," he said in a phone interview.

Castañeda was voted president last Sept. 15 under new election rules formulated by the Council.

But Beltran, then the incumbent president,

RIVAL/ A24

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# Doc denies taking own daughter in Makati

**By Leila Salaverria**

NOTED dermatologist Vinson Pineda denied that he abducted his young daughter from his ex-wife, saying it was the young girl who voluntarily went to his office.

Pineda also said that it was Maria Aurora Dee, whose marriage to him has been annulled, who barged into the Hei Chin Ron Seafood Restaurant in Makati on Jan. 2 and tried to take Rachel Verone while the young girl was having dinner with Pineda and her siblings.

Pineda showed a copy of the official receipt from the restaurant to prove that it was he who was having dinner with Rachel when Dee came, and not the other way around, as earlier reported.

The dermatologist said that inside the restaurant, Dee began to force Rachel to go with her. But when the girl resisted and clung to her father and other siblings, he naturally came to his daughter's aid, Pineda said.

Dee had gone to the police on Jan. 3 and reported that Pineda forcibly took Rachel.

In an interview, Pineda said Rachel voluntarily went to his office on Jan. 2 after giving the slip to her *yaya* and driver.

"Daddy, I escaped," he quoted Rachel as saying.

He added that he was surprised when the young girl appeared in his office. They had not seen each other in over three months, he said.

The young girl has been staying with Dee ever since the latter separated with Pineda.

# 3 killed in another fire in QC

**By Alcuin Papa**

A MOTHER and her two children were killed yesterday morning when they were trapped inside their burning house in Quezon City.

Firemen pulled out the bodies of Marissa Tumungco, 43, her daughter Mika, 10 and son Mikey, 4, from their burned house on Sct. Ojeda St., Barangay Obrero, Quezon City, after the two-hour fire.

The victims' companions, Araceli Camacho, 81, Maritess Camacho, 38, and housemaids Marilyn Basig, Pacita Obrigon and Kim Jino, managed to escape from the burning house.

Initial reports said the fire started at around 6:30 a.m. and reached the third alarm.

Firemen managed to put the fire under control at around 8:30 a.m.

Investigators said the three victims were sleeping on the second floor of the house when the fire started.

According to Basig, the fire might have started in the maids' quarters where Obrigon was said to have left a hot iron unplugged.

**INTERIOR** Secretary Joey Lina has come to the aid of Catherine Cariaga, (right) in her fight for her right to live on this piece of property in San Cristobal, Calamba City.

EGAY MONTANA

# 27 PTA employees sue Barbers for firing them

**By Jerome Aning**

TWENTY-SEVEN employees of the Philippine Tourism Authority have sued their Malacañang-recognized chief before the Ombudsman for firing them.

The employees said the Court of Appeals has yet to rule on the dispute of the feuding PTA general managers, Robert Dean Barbers and Nixon Kua.

Barbers, whom Malacañang appointed to replace Kua last month, fired the employees. Barbers said most of the dismissed had co-terminous tenures with Kua.

Kua is pursuing a case at the Court of Appeals, questioning Barbers's appointment. Kua claims his term, is fixed and would end until 2006.

The employees accused Barbers of violating their security of tenure and of disregarding their rights and welfare by withholding their salaries.

# Rival barangay chiefs to sit ...

From page A23

refused to recognize the new rules. A convention of "renegade" barangay chairs reelected him on Oct. 21.

Vice Mayor Danilo Lacuna, the council's presiding officer, had to recognize Beltran because the latter presented credentials, including certifications from the Manila office of the interior department and the national league.

Beltran took his oath of office with other league chiefs in the country last November. He was later voted national league treasurer.

The majority aldermen have prevented Beltran from sitting in the Council until the new arrangement was reached.

Councilor Atienza said Beltran will neither be included in roll calls nor be allowed to participate in the deliberations or vote on legislative acts.

Cases stemming from the dispute are being heard by the Supreme Court and two city regional trial courts. Beltran's position has been backed by the solicitor-general's office.

# Lina goes to the rescue of beleaguered Laguna residents

**By Leila Salaverria**

RESIDENTS of Purok 5, Barangay San Cristobal in Calamba, Laguna may soon say goodbye to the fear and uncertainty that have been hounding them ever since some of their homes have been demolished while a wall has been erected around their community.

Interior and Local Government Secretary Joey Lina yesterday said he has sent DILG operatives on a fact-finding mission to investigate the situation in the small, rural community where tension runs high due to a businessman's efforts to pressure the residents to leave.

Lina said the operatives would be ready with a report by the middle of next week. Lina has directed his men to check the records of the disputed area with the local government to learn whether or not a title has been issued for it.

The residents have complained of efforts to drive them away from their community where they have been staying for more than 10 years.

Catherine Cariaga, one of the residents, has said that as far as they know, no title has been issued for the area where they live because it's practically in the water.

Purok 5 is located under a bridge on the National Highway.

But she added that a businessman had claimed ownership of the land and is trying to drive her and her neighbors away.

Cariaga and her neighbors have sought the help of Calamba Mayor Severino Lajara, who has directed Barangay Captain Narciso Tangcangco to help the residents.

But the residents said that their plea to the authorities have come to naught. Everyday, the residents face uncertainty, not knowing if they would still have homes to wake up to the next day.

## THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, January 26, 2003
3rd Week in Ordinary Time

**1st Reading:** Jon 3:1-5, 10

The word of Yahweh came to Jonah a second time: "Go to Nineveh, the great city, and announce to them the message I give you."

In obedience to the word of Yahweh, Jonah went to Nineveh. It was a very large city, and it took three days just to cross it. So Jonah walked a single day's journey and began proclaiming, "Forty days more and Nineveh will be destroyed."

The people of the city believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened upon them.

**2nd Reading:** 1 Cor 7:29-31

Brothers and sisters, time is running out, and those who are married must live as if not married; those who weep as if not weeping; those who are happy as if they were not happy; those buying something as if they had not bought it, and those enjoying the present life as if they were not enjoying it. For the order of this world is vanishing.

**Gospel:** Mk 1:14-20

After John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee and began preaching the Good News of God. He said, "The time has come; the kingdom of God is at hand. Change your ways and believe the Good News."

As Jesus was walking along the shore of Lake Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake, for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." At once, they left their nets and followed him. Jesus went a little farther on and saw James and John, the sons of Zebedee; they were in their boat mending their nets. Immediately, Jesus called them and they followed him, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men.

**Commentary**

*"The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time." This is, of course, because, the first time around, Jonah fled from the Lord, refusing the mission to preach repentance to Nineveh. But the Lord pursued him, through the dramatic storm, which resulted in Jonah's being cast overboard, and through the great fish, which swallowed the reluctant prophet and spewed him on the soil of Nineveh. Here he stands, in today's reading, freshly regurgitated, now attentive to the Word that missions him. By way of contrast, the disciples Jesus calls need no second invitation. All of them,-Peter, Andrew, James and John-left everything immediately to follow Jesus. Or so it seems. For, after a few years, they all will need a second time for the word of the Lord to come to them. Now, since they are not yet fully aware of the cost of following Jesus, they are enthusiastic. Later, when the cross looms, they will abandon and deny him. But the word of the Lord does come to them a second time, speaking of peace, recommisioning them to service and witness. Praise the God then whose missioning word comes a second, a third, a fourth time to send reluctant prophets and renew the call of wavering disciples!*

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# Robber slain in shootout with cops

**By Alcuin Papa**

A ROBBERY suspect was killed when he chose to shoot it out with Quezon City policemen Friday night.

According to a report from the Central Police District's Criminal Investigation Unit, a team from CPD police station 2 under Insp. Joseph De Vera were in Sitio Pajo, Barangay Baesa, Quezon City, to arrest Oscar Bragas, 24, a painter.

Police said Bragas had pulled off a series of robbery incidents in the area.

When the policemen approached Bragas' shanty in Sitio Pajo at about 6:45 p.m., the suspect opened fire on the lawmen.

De Vera's team was forced to fire back. Bragas was hit in different parts of the body and was brought to the Quezon City General Hospital where he was declared dead on arrival.

Recovered from the victim was a .38-caliber pistol.

# Prices are killing us, consumers say

From page A23

"Where is the president's promise to improve the economy?," she asked.

"When the President announced that she will not be running (in 2004), she promised that she will devote her remaining 18 months in office to improve the economy," she said. "Her formula for improving the economy is to allow big companies like Nestle, Meralco, Maynilad and oil companies to profit at the expense of the Filipino families and consumers."

Citing figures gathered by the group, Donato said the prices of sardines, noodles and soap increased by P0.05 to P1, while water rates increased by P6 per cubic meter. The Purchased Power Adjustment has led to a P0.13 per kilowatt hour increase in electricity rates.

On Friday, oil giant Caltex Philippines announced a P0.55 increase in the price of a liter of gasoline, and a P0.45 increase for diesel and kerosene, the third in a series of nerve-racking price increases by the three big oil companies, the consumer group said in a statement. Earlier, Petron and Shell also jacked up the prices of their products.

The omen's group Gabriela has also announced that they will hold a series of rallies this week to protest the price hikes, Donato said.

"We don't have to cringe helplessly while these companies steal from us," she said. "It is high time we consumers unite against these gangs and their protectors in government."

## SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

POLITICAL LAW (CONSTITUTIONAL LAW) - Right to counsel during custodial investigation - If Atty. Guinalon was not really appellants' chosen counsel, they could have requested for another lawyer or voiced their objection. Appellants never did but instead voluntarily executed their extra-judicial statements. While the initial choice of the lawyer in cases where a person under custodial investigation cannot afford the services of a lawyer is naturally lodged in the police investigators, the accused really has the final choice as he may reject the counsel chosen for him and ask for another one. A lawyer provided by the investigators is deemed engaged by the accused where he never raised any objection against the lawyer's appointment during the course of the investigation and the accused thereafter subscribes to the veracity of his statement before the swearing officer. Atty. Guinalon further testified that he explained to appellants their constitutional rights and asked them if they understood those rights. He told them the possible consequences of their statements. Atty. Guinalon told appellants that they have the right not to sign their statements if they think that it may incriminate them. Knowing the gravity of the offense, he took pains to explain to them that they were charged with a grave crime and that by their confessions they would be admitting to the commission of the crime. We agree, therefore, with the trial court's finding that appellants were acrorded a competent and independent counsel in the person of Atty. Guinalon. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Kapunan, People v. Tizon, Jr., G. R. No. 133228-31, July 30, 2002] DIGEST BY R. B. VERA

## METROBRIEFS

### 11 nabbed in Magallanes

FOR LACK of anything better to do, 11 teenagers decided to rob Angelito Y. Gonzales in Makati City. Police said the suspects parked their maroon Tamarraw FX (WCL-633) near the MRT station on Edsa in Magallanes and were looking for a possible victim when they chanced upon Gonzales, 30, a liaison officer for CIDI Information Inc. in Makati, who was on his way home at around 1:30 a.m. Thursday. PO2 Roldan Daniel said the suspects, mostly residents of middle-class subdivisions in Parañaque, approached Gonzales and threatened him with a .38-caliber revolver, an icepick and a slingshot. But Gonzales was spared when roving members of Makati's Bantay Bayan saw the young men and arrested them. At the Makati Police headquarters, investigators asked the suspects why they tried to rob Gonzales. "Trip *lang* (it was just a whim)," one of them replied, according to PO2 Daniel. *Leila Salaverria*

### Man found dead in Baesa

SALVADOR.Berdinal was found dead in a residential area in Quezon City on Tuesday night. Central Police District officials said Berdinal, 37, a resident of Barangay Baesa, was shot several times. According to PO1 Leo Nino Pasco, the victim was found lying on his back by a bystander at around 10:30 p.m. in front of Baby's Store in Baesa. *Alcuin Papa*

### Toughie killed in Marikina

NEIGHBORHOOD tough guy Ronald Eugenio was shot dead in front of his horrified friends in Marikina City Wednesday night. Police said the victim's fellow thug had a grudge against Eugenio, 36, of Sitio Tumana, Barangay Concepcion Uno, Marikina City. Investigation showed that while the victim was playing "tong-its," a form of poker at about 9 p.m. in a house on Mais Street, the unidentified assailant barged into the house and used a .32-caliber revolver in shooting Eugenio at close range. Eugenio was shot twice in the head and died instantly, said PO3 Orlando Salen of the Marikina City Police. The suspect escaped, he added. *Nelson Flores*

### Brawl over food bill on Edsa

A HELPER in Quezon City on Wednesday was stabbed dead by a coworker over who should pay for their meals in an eatery. Police said James Diagon, 20, of Oriental Market, Balintawak, Quezon City, stabbed to death Rudy Valiente, 25, of PUC, Bansal, Caloocan City. Police said Valiente, Diagon and some of their coworkers had just finished their meals in an eatery near Pilares Market on Edsa in Balintawak when they started to argue over who should foot the P275 bill at around 12:30 a.m. The coworkers managed to separate Valiente and Diagon before they came to exchange blows. But as Valiente was walking away with a friend, Diagon attacked the victim from behind, stabbing him twice. Diagon is now at large, police said. *Alcuin Papa*

### Man convicted in QC

MECHANIC Cesar Demafeliz on Wednesday was sentenced to life imprisonment for robbing and killing Indian Sarabjit Singh two years ago. Quezon City Judge Monina Zenarosa also ordered Demafeliz, 20, of Barangay Gulod, Novaliches, to pay the victim's family around P350,000 in damages. Court records showed that on Aug.t 16, 2001, Singh, 23, and his stepmother Lilibeth Marzan Bubb, were traveling on Quirino Highway on board a jeep when Demafeliz and three other men blocked the victims' vehicle on the corner of Nelle Street. At gunpoint, the robbers took the handbag of Bubb containing P40,000 cash and a P3,000, gold ring. They shot Singh three times and fled on board a tricycle. Demafeliz, who was arrested a month later, denied the charges. *Agnes Donato*

Kilabot ng mga Kriminal! Magbabalik na!

# ‘Break Barriers’ mall tour starts today

TOP artists who gathered together for a new album, "Break Barriers" under BMG Records (Pilipinas), will spearhead a celebration of music today at SM Southmall in Las Piñas City.

The "Break Barriers" mall tour kicks off at 4 p.m. and will feature performances by Luke Mejares (formerly of South Border), Cookie Chua (formerly of Color It Red), Radha (formerly of Kulay) and Anna Fegi. They will render some of their signature songs, as well as cuts from the "Break Barriers" album.

"Break Barriers" is in celebration of Close Up's 30 glorious years in the Philippine market.

"It is about celebrating life through music that exceeds the barriers against love and friendship that essentially capture what Close-Up is all about," shares Angela Reyes, assistant brand manager of Close-Up."

"Break Barriers" also revives six original Close-up songs—"Just A Smile Away" (recorded by Luke Mejares), "Closer You and I" (by Anna Fegi), "Got To Get Close To You" (by Cooky Chua), "I Wanna Get Close To You" (by Kyla), "Closer To You Baby" (by Radha) and "Close In On Love" (by Ariel Rivera).

Other cuts in the album are Rachel Alejandro's "(They Long to Be) Close To You," "Heaven In Your Smile" (version of Chad Borja and Alecx Estrada), The Eraserheads' "With A Smile" and a solo saxophone version of "Just A Smile Away," by Dix Lucero.

The mall tour will be the first in a series of shows mounted by BMG Records (Pilipinas) and Unilever Philippines to celebrate Close Up's 30th anniversary.

# Melanie guests in Inday's TV show

COMEDIANS Tito, Vic and Joey, Bong Revilla Jr., Robin Padilla, Rio Diaz and Ara Mina.

These are some of the stars who bared their heart to Inday Badiday in her new talk show aptly titled "Heart to Heart," Sundays, 11 a.m. to 12 noon on GMA 7 (right before "SOP").

Today, it is the turn of former beauty queen Melanie Marquez to bare her heart to Inday.

The 1979 Miss International title holder talks about her romances and children. She has five kids—one by Pampanga Governor Lito Lapid, one by an Arab businessman, two by Filipino-Chinese sportsman-actor Derek Dee, and one by American trader Adam Lawyer.

Melanie is pregnant with her second baby with Lawyer.

Melanie is at once touching and funny, but always honest and sincere in her "open-heart" session with Inday.

"Heart to Heart" is produced by Kitchie Benedicto, directed by Bert de Leon and written by Bibeth Orteza and Anselle Beluso.

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National Commission for Culture and the Arts – GVRP
Mowelfund Film institute
present
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★ RESTORED CLASSICS!
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PELIKULA at LIPUNAN
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Pebrero 12 - 18
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SM iloilo
Pebrero 28 - Marso 1
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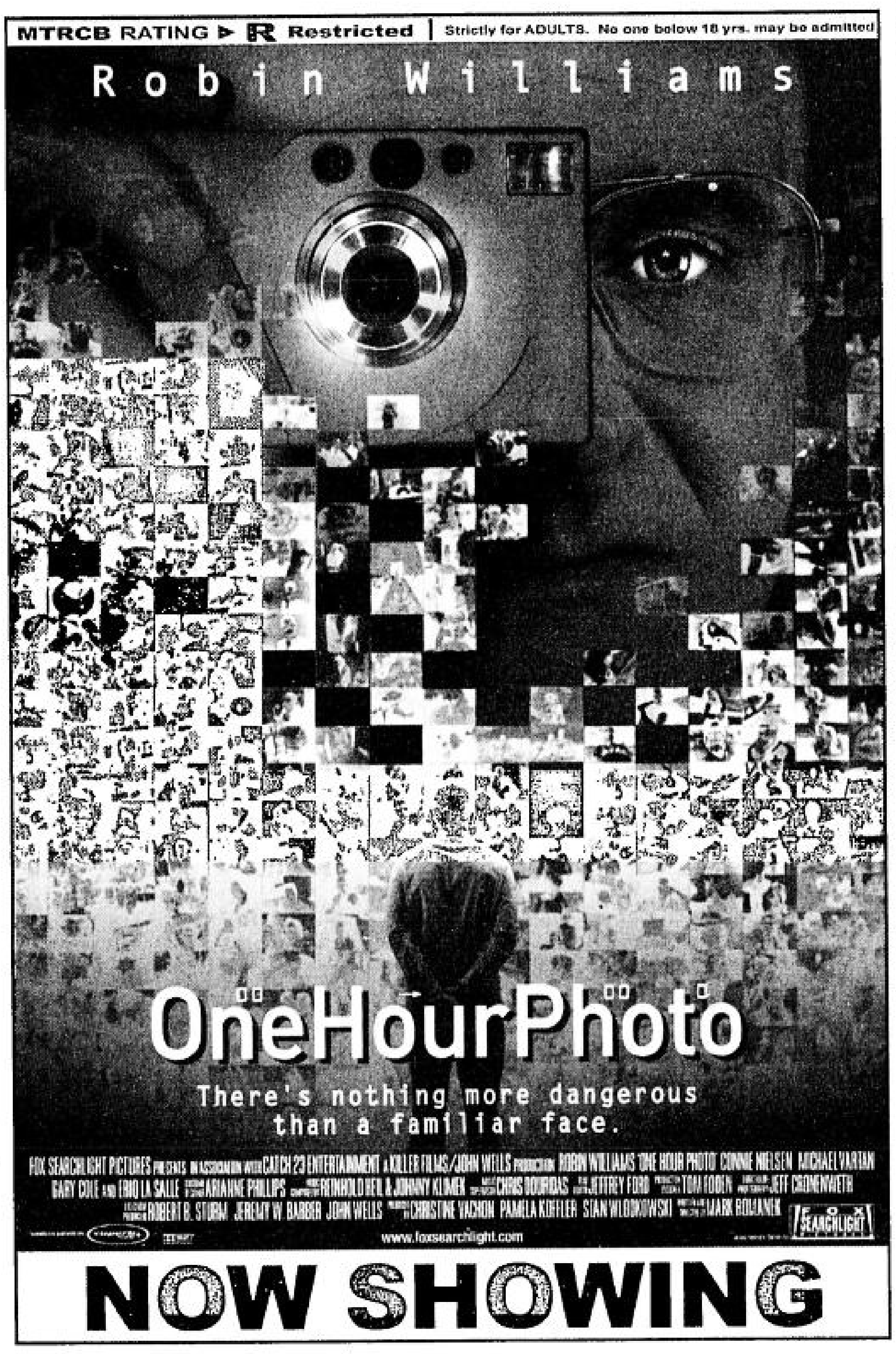
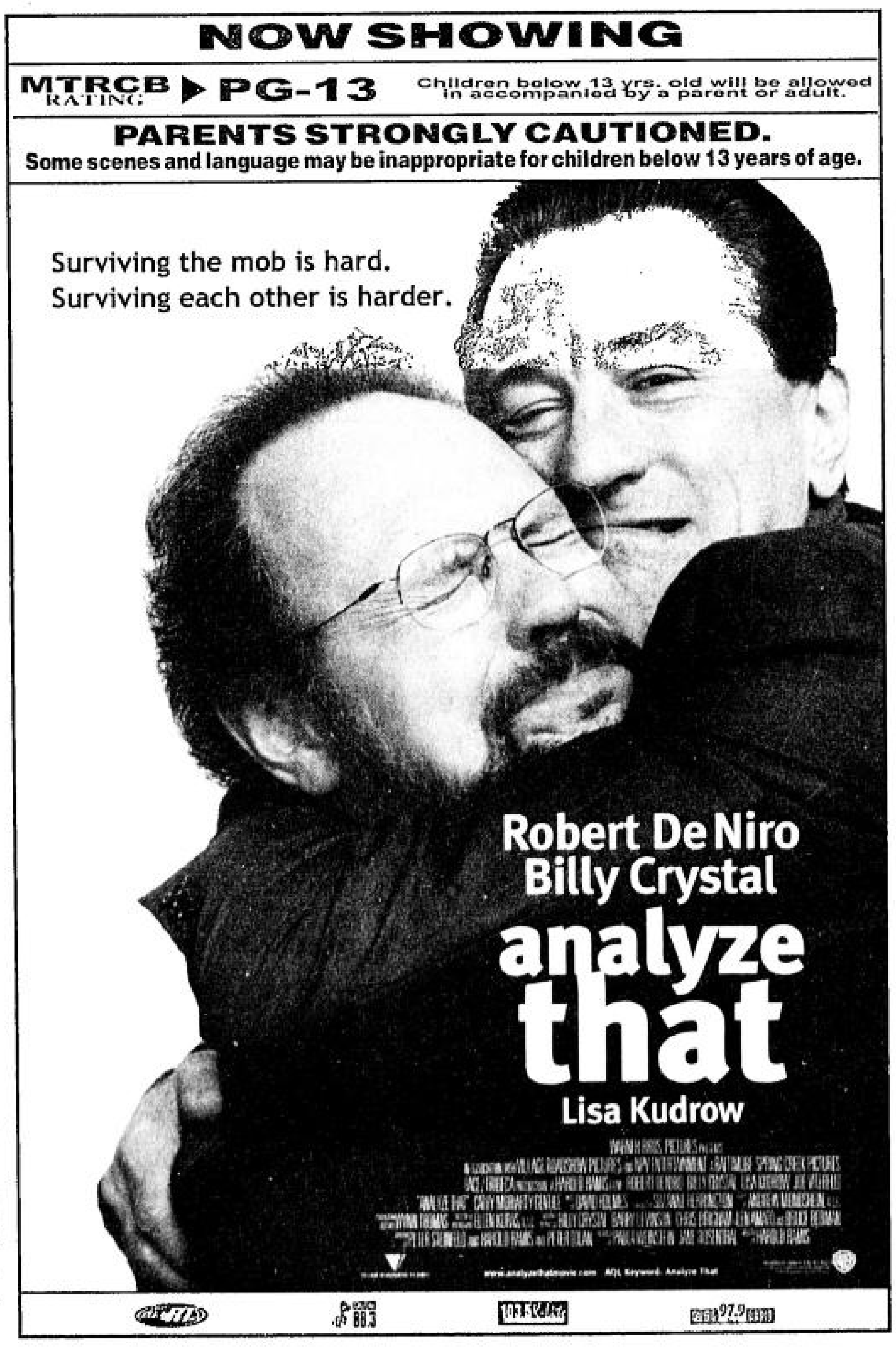
for inquiries: call mfi at 7271915 www.mfi.com.ph


MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted | Strictly for ADULTS. No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted
Robin Williams
OneHourPhoto
There's nothing more dangerous than a familiar face.
www.foxsearchlight.com
NOW SHOWING


NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult.
PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED.
Some scenes and language may be inappropriate for children below 13 years of age.
Surviving the mob is hard.
Surviving each other is harder.
Robert De Niro
Billy Crystal
analyze that
Lisa Kudrow

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
"Catch it while you can. Movies don't get much more fun than this. One of the best films of the year."
Good Morning America - Joel Siegel
leonardo dicaprio tom hanks
"It's a tribute to Spielberg's gifts as a director of suspense...a wonderful film."
Premiere Magazine - Glenn Kenny
"The nicest movie you could ask for...a gently funny, sweetly adventurous film that makes you feel genuinely good..."
Time Magazine - Richard Schickel
"Spielberg has forged Hanks and DiCaprio into a beguiling,exuberant movie."
The Today Show - Gene Shalit
A STEVEN SPIELBERG FILM
catch me if you can
The true story of a real fake.
united international pictures
CATCH THEM ON JANUARY 29

"GUSTO KONG MAG-EKSPERIMENTO..."
raymond bagatsing carlo maceda
katya santos
Sukdulan
hanggang saan ka sasabay?
hanggang kailan ka bibigay?
DIRECTED BY MAC C. ALEJANDRE
VIVA FILMS
OPENS JANUARY 29

For sreening times, call 729-7777
Schedules are subject to change without prior notice

## AYALA CINEMAS NOW SHOWING

| G1 GLORIETTA 1 | G4 GLORIETTA 4 | GB1 GREENBELT 1 | GB3 GREENBELT 3 | ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 8 MILE | 1 THE HOT CHICK | 1 ALL OVER THE GUY (EXCLUSIVE)<br>11:55, 1:50, 3:45, 5:40, 7:35, 9:30 | 1 8 MILE<br>12:45, 2:55, 5:05, 7:15, 9:25, 11:30 | 1 THE LORD OF THE RINGS: TWO TOWERS |
| 2 RING (ORIG. JAPANESE VERSION) | 2 TRY SEVENTEEN | 2 RING (ORIG. JAPANESE VERSION)<br>11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 | THE LORD OF THE RINGS: TWO TOWERS<br>12:30, 4:00, 7:30, 11:00 | 2 THE HOT CHICK |
| THE LORD OF THE RINGS: TWO TOWERS | 3 8 MILE<br>12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 12:00 | OGIE ALCASID: OA SA PUSO<br>Feb. 7, 8, 13, 14 & 15 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD)<br>12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30 | 3 8 MILE |
| 4 THE HOT CHICK | 4 ANALYZE THAT | | 4 ANALYZE THAT<br>1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 | 4 ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| | 5 ONE HOUR PHOTO | | THE HOT CHICK<br>11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50, 11:10 | ANALYZE THAT |
| | 6 THE LORD OF THE RINGS: TWO TOWERS | | | |
| | 7 THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) | | | |

Reserve your seats by texting "SURESEATS G4 (or any Ayala Cinemas) and send to 2333
Or log on to www.sureseats.com
GSC: Guaranteed Seats Cinema

# MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

# MOVIE GUIDE
## NOW SHOWING
EMAIL: mmta@asia.com

**Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA**
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 2 (SDDS) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 3 (DTS) | 8 MILE |
| 4 GOLD (DTS ES) | ANALYZE THAT |
| 5 GOLD (DOLBY EX) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 6 GOLD (SDDS) | 8 MILE |
| 7 GOLD (DOLBY EX) | HOT CHICK |
| 8 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 9 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 10 | THE RING |

**Pearl Plaza Cinemas**
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | RESERVE |
| 2 | RESERVE |
| 3 (DTS) | RESERVE |
| 4 | RESERVE |
| 5 | RESERVE |
| 6 (DTS) | LORD OF THE RING |
| Golden Pearl THX | RESERVE |

**Masagana CINEMA ①②&③**
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LORD OF THE RING |
| 2 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 3 | BANGKERO |

**starmall Movies**
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 8 MILE |
| 2 | HOT CHICK |
| 3 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 5 | BANGKERO |

**METROPOLIS star**
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LORD OF THE RING |
| 2 | THE RING |
| 3 | HOT CHICK |
| 4 | 8 MILE |
| 5 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 6 | ANALYZE THAT |

**M star**
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas)
tel 873.5004

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LORD OF THE RING |
| 2 | HALF PAST DEAD |

**PREMIERE CINEMA** THX
(Makati City) tel 751.2010 to13

**Center Plaza Cinema**
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | ALAMAT NG LAWIN |
| 2 | LASTIKMAN |

**FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL INC**
tel 930.9515

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | RESERVE |
| 2 | ALIPIN NG ALIW |
| 3 | RESERVE |

**Sunshine**
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | PAKAWALANG PUSO |
| 2 | BANGKERO |
| 3 | RESERVE |
| 4 | RESERVE |

**GOTESCO CINEMA**

**Gotesco City**
(Manila) tel 734.8568

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (SDDS) | 8 MILE |
| 4 | HOT CHICK |
| 5 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 6 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 7 (DTS) | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 8 (SDDS) | THE RING |
| 9 (DOLBY) | LORD OF THE RING |

**Gotesco Caloocan**
tel 362.3508

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | RESERVE |

**Gotesco Grand Central**
(Caloocan) tel 365.7928

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 2 | 8 MILE |
| 3 | HOT CHICK |
| 4 (SDDS) | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 5 | THE RING |
| 6 (DOLBY) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 7 (DTS) | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 8 | LASTIKMAN |
| 9 | BANGKERO |

**Gotesco Commonwealth**
tel 951.0082

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 2 (SDDS) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 3 (DTS) | THE RING |
| 4 (DOLBY) | 8 MILE |
| 5 | HOT CHICK |

**Gotesco Ortigas**
tel 656.6795

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 8 MILE |
| 2 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 3 (DTS) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 4 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 5 (SDDS) | THE RING |

**Universal**
(Manila) tel 733.2470

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |

**Sampaquita**
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |

**Dilson**
(Manila) tel 734.7724

| | |
|---|---|
| Dilson | |
| Lords | MASIKIP MAINIT |
| Jennet | RESERVE |

**MARKETPLACE**
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 2 | LORD OF THE RING |
| 3 | HULI MO HULI KO |
| 4 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |

**Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto**
**SUPER CINERAMA**
tel 733.4238

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 2 | 8 MILE |
| 3 | THE RING |
| 4 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 5 | ANALYZE THAT |

**FRC Cinema**
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |

**Berma Cinema**
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 2 | LORD OF THE RING |

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT
**Araneta**
**MALL CINEPLEX 7**
tel 911.3101 loc. 821,8242,8400

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 8 MILE |
| 2 | THE RING |
| 3 (DOLBY DIGITAL) | HOT CHICK |
| 4 (SDDS) | LOD OF THE RINGS 2 |
| 5 (DTS) | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 6 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 7 | ANAYLYZE THAT |

**FarmersPlaza CINEMAS**
tel 911.3101 loc. 821,8242,8400

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 2 | LORD OF THE RINGS 2 |

**CINEMA 2000**

**Cinema 2000 Target Mall**
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BANGKERO |
| 2 | 8 MILE |
| 3 (DTS) | LORD OF THE RING |

**Cinema 2000 Waltermart**
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | THE RING |
| 2 (DTS) | 8 MILE |
| 3 (DOLBY) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 4 | HOT CHICK |

**Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall**
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | THE RING |
| 2 (DOLBY) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 3 (DTS) | 8 MILE |
| 4 | HOT CHICK |

**Cinema 2000 Cinemagix**
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SWIM FAN |
| 2 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 3 (DOLBY) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 4 | RESERVE |

**Cinema 2000 MetroTown**
(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BANGKERO |
| 2 | HEAVEN |
| 3 (DOLBY) | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 4 (DTS) | MANO PO |

**Magic Star Cinema**
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 2 (DTS) | BANGKERO |
| 3 | AGIMAT |

**Lianas Cinema**
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (SDDS) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 2 | LAKAS AT PAG-IBIG |
| 3 (DTS) | THE RING |
| 4 | BANGKERO |

**Lianas MovieCity**
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 2 | HOT CHICK |
| 3 (DTS) | BANGKERO |
| 4 | THE RING |
| 5 | 8 MILE |

**Olivarez Tri-Cinema**
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LORD OF THE RING |
| 2 | BANGKERO |
| 3 | THE RING |

**Olivarez Los Baños**
tel (049) 249.2558

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LORD OF THE RING |
| 2 | THE RING |
| 3 | 8 MILE |

**Mega Center Mall**
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SWIMFAN |
| 2 | BIRTHDAY GIRL |
| 3 (DTS) | SHAOLIN SOCCER |
| 4 (DOLBY) | LASTIKMAN |

**Cabuyao**
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DTS) | RESERVE |
| 2 (DTS) | RESERVE |

**Emperor**
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | KERIDA |
| 2 | AGIMAT |
| 3 | BANGKERO |

**Fiesta World Mall**
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | KERIDA |
| 2 | SHAOLIN SOCCER |
| 3 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 4 | LIKE MIKE |

**Jade Cinema**
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY EX) | LORD OF THE RING |
| 2 | HOT CHICK |
| 3 (DTS ES) | 8 MILE |
| 4 | THE RING |

**Cine Nepo Mall**
(Angeles City) tel (045) 322-3571

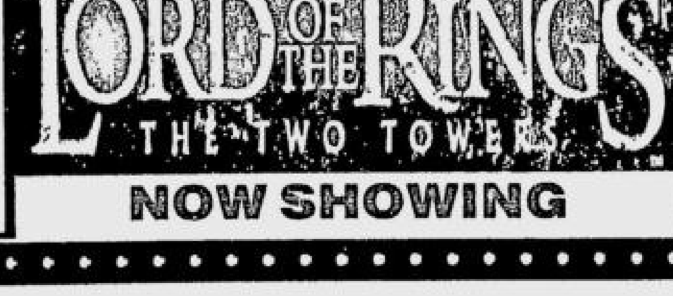
| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | VOODOO |
| 2 | 8 MILE |
| 3 (DOLBY) | HOT CHICK |
| 4 (DTS) | LORD OF THE RING |

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS

FESTIVAL CINEMA
Level 4
Festival Supermall
Filinvest - Alabang
Tel. 85035-71 to 72

BE THE FIRST TO WITNESS


THE LORD OF THE RINGS
THE TWO TOWERS

NOW SHOWING

# SM CINEMA
SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 833-9999
## NOW SHOWING

**SM CITY BACOOR**
4173868

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 2 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 3 | 8 MILE |
| 4 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 5 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 6 | HOT CHICK |
| | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 8 | LASTIKMAN |

**SM CENTERPOINT**
7149522 -7161416

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 2 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 3 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 5 | 8 MILE |
| 6 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 7 | HOT CHICK |
| 8 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 9 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 10 | ANALYZE THAT |

**SM CITY FAIRVIEW**
9350749

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MANO PO |
| 2 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 3 | LASTIKMAN |
| 4 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 5 | 8 MILE |
| 6 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 7 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 8 | HOT CHICK |
| 9 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 11 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 12 | HALF PAST DEAD |

**SM CITY MANILA**
5239240

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | HOT CHICK |
| 2 | RING (JAPANESE) |
| 3 | 8 MILE |
| 4 | 8 MILE |
| 5 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 6 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 7 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| 9 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 10 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 11 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 12 | HALF PAST DEAD |

**SM MEGAMALL**
6331901 • 6329401

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 2 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 3 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 4 | 8 MILE |
| 5 | RING (JAPANESE) |
| 6 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 7 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 8 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 9 | HOT CHICK |
| 10 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 11 | LASTIKMAN |
| | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |

**SM CITY NORTH EDSA**
9296452

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | HOT CHICK |
| 2 | RING (JAPANESE) |
| 3 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 4 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 5 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 6 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 7 | 8 MILE |
| 8 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |

**SM SOUTHMALL**
8066888

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 2 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 3 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 4 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 5 | LASTIKMAN |
| 6 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 7 | HOT CHICK |
| 8 | 8 MILE |
| 9 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |

**SM CITY CEBU**
2313876

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | CHARLOTTE GRAY |
| 2 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 3 | 8 MILE |
| | MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING |
| 5 | BANGKERO |
| 6 | KERIDA |
| 7 | VAMPS |
| 8 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |

**SM CITY ILOILO**
3209422

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|---|---|
| 1 | KERIDA |
| 2 | CLOSED |
| 3 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| | BROTHERHOOD OF THE WOLF |
| 5 | MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING |
| 6 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 7 | CLOSED |
| 8 | UNFAITHFUL CONCUBINE |

**SM CITY PAMPANGA**
7128015

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 2 | 8 MILE |
| 3 | SWIMFAN |
| 4 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 5 | KERIDA |
| 6 | HOT CHICK |

**SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT**
8294975

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 2 | 8 MILE |
| 3 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 4 | ANALYZE THAT |

**SM CINEMA TUTUBAN**
2514302

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 8 MILE |
| 2 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 3 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 4 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |

**SM CITY DAVAO**
2976998

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |
| 2 | UNFAITHFUL CONCUBINE |
| 3 | LIKE MIKE |
| 4 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 5 | 8 MILE |
| 6 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |

**SM BICUTAN**
776-3055

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | HOT CHICK |
| 2 | 8 MILE |
| 3 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 4 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS |

**SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO**
859-2884

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | THE RING (HOLLYWOOD) |
| 2 | KERIDA |
| 3 | SWIMFAN |
| 4 | HALF PAST DEAD |

**THE PODIUM CINEMA**
18 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City
633-8976

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LOTR: THE TWO TOWERS<br>11:30 FS/12:00 MF/3:40/7:20/<br>10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/2:10 END |
| 2 | 8 MILE<br>10:50 FS/11:20 MF/1:40/4:00/6:20/8:40/<br>10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:50 END |

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee : P100.00 - Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
Regular Rate : P120.00 - After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating)

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

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@ Robinsons Malls
call-a-movie: 536- 7812
## NOW SHOWING

**Galleria** 632- 9115- 16 / 633- 7641 loc. 279

| | |
|---|---|
| THX | LORD OF THE RINGS II - 11:00 AM (MF); 2:30 PM; 6:00 PM; 9:30 PM (LMF) |
| 2 | HOT CHICK |
| 3 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 4 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 5 | 8 MILE |
| 6 | LORD OF THE RINGS II |
| 7 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 8 | THE RING (US VERSION) |
| 9 | RING (JAPANESE VERSION) |
| 10 | TRY SEVENTEEN |

MATINEE PRICE: P80 THX cinema · P65 level cinemas
Mon.- Fri. / 10am- 4pm ( EXCEPT HOLIDAYS )

**Ermita** 536 -7809- 12

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LORD OF THE RINGS II |
| 2 | THE RING (US VERSION) |
| 3 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 4 | RING (JAPANESE VERSION) |
| 5 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 6 | HOT CHICK |
| 7 | 8 MILE |

**Metro East - Marcos hway** 682- 8193 / 8280

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | THE RING (US VERSION) |
| 2 | LORD OF THE RINGS II |
| 3 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 4 | HOT CHICK |
| 5 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 6 | 8 MILE |
| 7 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 8 | LASTIKMAN |

**Novaliches** 935- 3229 - 30

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LORD OF THE RINGS II |
| 2 | THE RING (US VERSION) |
| 3 | HOT CHICK |
| 4 | 8 MILE |
| 5 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 6 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 7 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| 8 | HALF PAST DEAD |

**Malabon Citisquare** 288-0985 / 288-2575

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 8 MILE |
| 2 | LORD OF THE RING II |
| 3 | HOT CHICK |
| 4 | THE RING (US VERSION) |

**Star Mills- Sn. Fernando, Pamp.** 875- 1927 / 961- 5318 / 5270

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 8 MILE |
| 2 | SWIMFAN |
| 3 | HOT CHICK |
| 4 | KERIDA |
| 5 | THE RING (US VERSION) |
| 6 | LORD OF THE RINGS II |

**Imus** 471- 8188 / 875- 3838

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LORD OF THE RINGS II |
| 2 | THE RING (US VERSION) |
| 3 | HOT CHICK] |
| 4 | ANALYZE THAT |
| 5 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| 6 | TRY SEVENTEEN |

**Sta. Rosa Laguna** 049-8370907

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | LORD OF THE RINGS II |
| 2 | THE RING (US VERSION) |
| 3 | 8 MILE |
| 4 | BANGKERO |
| 5 | HOT CHICK |

**Bacolod** 441- 0453 / 0459

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | THE RING (US VERSION) |
| 2 | 8 MILE |
| 3 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 4 | SWIMFAN |
| 5 | BROTHERHOOD OF THE WOLF |
| 6 | LAPU-LAPU |

**Iloilo** 336- 8077 - 78

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | THE RING (US VERSION) |
| 2 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| 3 | MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING |
| 4 | UNFAITHFUL CONCUVINE |
| 5 | DOUBLE SEDUCTION |
| 6 | KERIDA |

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

SIDE A. First and foremost a family.

FREESTYLE. Good communication is the key element.

# Love and passion for music bind Side A and Freestyle

By Marinel R. Cruz

AFTER years of successfully filling up big concert halls and creating tunes that most Filipinos now consider theme songs of their lives, the members of Freestyle and Side A still show no sign of stopping.

Freestyle male vocalist Top Suzara attests good communication is the key element in having a closely-knit group like theirs.

"Everyone in the band is encouraged to voice out their problems or troubles," he says.

Although the audience sees Freestyle enjoying every live performance, it doesn't mean that none among the members ever thought of bolting out from the group.

"It has not always been smooth-sailing, you know," Top explains.

Jinky Vidal, Freestyle's female vocalist, had been repeatedly offered to go solo.

## No conflict

"But she loves her Freestyle family too much to leave it," Top reasons out. "That's not to say that other vocalists who chose to go solo don't love their former bands, though."

Side A guitarist Kelly Badon shares another tip: "When awful things happen, when we feel like we are about to wring each other's necks, we try to remember that we are first and foremost, a family."

Kelly points out that his band mates see no conflict when Side A lead vocalist Joey Generoso is invited to perform solo in some shows. Kelly says Joey G consults Side A's manager Wyngard Tracy before he agrees to a gig.

"That way, none of the band's shows are affected," Kelly adds.

After the demise of Freestyle manager and Top's father Bollix Suzara last June, the Davao-based band is now also under the management of Wyngard. Guitarist Tat Suzara, bassist Carlo Tapia, keyboardist Nikki Cabardo and drummer Gerard Banzon make up the rest of Freestyle.

Like Joey G, Top says Jinky had worked with other musicians. She recently recorded "Always," a duet with Gary Valenciano for the latter's "One2One" album.

Top, the music whiz of the group, has also done other projects not connected with the band. He has composed songs for artists such as 17:28, Ogie Alcasid and Lani Misalucha.

When writing songs, Top gets his inspiration from all sorts of personal experiences.

"I wrote 'So Slow' when I was caught in a traffic jam along Edsa. I did it to keep myself preoccupied," he recalls.

## Group effort

For Kelly, Joey G, keyboardist Naldy Gonzales, bassist Joey Benin and drummer Ernie Severino, creating tunes is a group effort.

"One makes the melody while the other makes the lyrics," says Kelly.

"Each member of the band adds his own flavor to the song so that in the end, the song is not the work of one member but a creation of the whole group."

Both bands are busy gathering materials for their new albums—Side A's 11th and Freestyle's third. They are also promoting their one-night Valentine concert, "Love X 2," Feb. 14 at the Araneta Coliseum.

The show marks Side A and Freestyle's second Araneta team up, following the highly successful "Back2Back," held in February last year.

Naldy says Side A has already done five shows with Freestyle, two in Manila, one in Baguio, Pampanga and Cebu.

"Each time we share the stage, we enjoy performing together so much that we feel like we're an 11-piece ensemble and not members of two bands," Naldy asserts. "It's the love for music that binds us and makes us gel."

Ernie maintains that although Freestyle has been in the music scene for only six years, an experienced band like Side A can still learn a lesson or two from them.

"It is through them that we get in touch with the now music," he says.

"The competition between us inspires us to work harder," adds Kelly.

## Professionalism

Jinky, meanwhile, says Freestyle admires Side A's professionalism and passion for performing.

"They're still making good music after all these years. We hope to last in this business just like them," she says.

Freestyle and Side A will perform selected romantic tunes for Valentine's Day, as well as their hit songs in the Big Dome show.

"Love X 2" will also feature Joey G and Jinky on several duets. Special guests are the Hotlegs and Maneouvres dancers.

# Marvin Agustin faces busy year with dramatic film projects

FRESH from his performance in Chito Roño's critically acclaimed period drama, "Dekada '70," Marvin Agustin jumpstarts 2003 with equally good projects on top of his current ones, making him one of the busiest actors in his batch.

The young actor will mark the first quarter of the year with several movies in the genre where he first gained noticed—drama.

Marvin has just wrapped up the remaining scenes for "Tanging Ina," with Ai Ai de las Alas in the title role for Star Cinema.

Marvin plays the son of Ai-Ai and big brother to a brood that easily numbers to nearly a dozen.

After "Tanging Ina," Marvin will start filming the remake of "Moral," another Star Cinema production with director Marilou Diaz-Abaya at the helm.

The project will cast Marvin along the bevy of first-rate performers such as Dina Bonnevie, Sandy Andolong, Cherry Pie Picache and Eula Valdez.

Marvin will also reunite with his favorite director Joyce Bernal in yet another dramatic vehicle. Joyce directed Marvin in "Hey Babe" and "Super B."

"I'm so excited with the kind of projects I'm set to do this year," Marvin says.

Aside from his film projects, Marvin is also doing his regular TV shows which includes hosting "Magandang Tanghali Bayan" on Fridays and Saturdays and starring in the primetime sitcom "Whattamen" on Wednesdays. He also does a semi-regular role in the Sunday teen soap "Tabing Ilog."

Marvin is likewise preparing for another soap opera on ABS-CBN, a follow up to his hit drama series, "Sa Sandaling Kailangan Mo Ako."

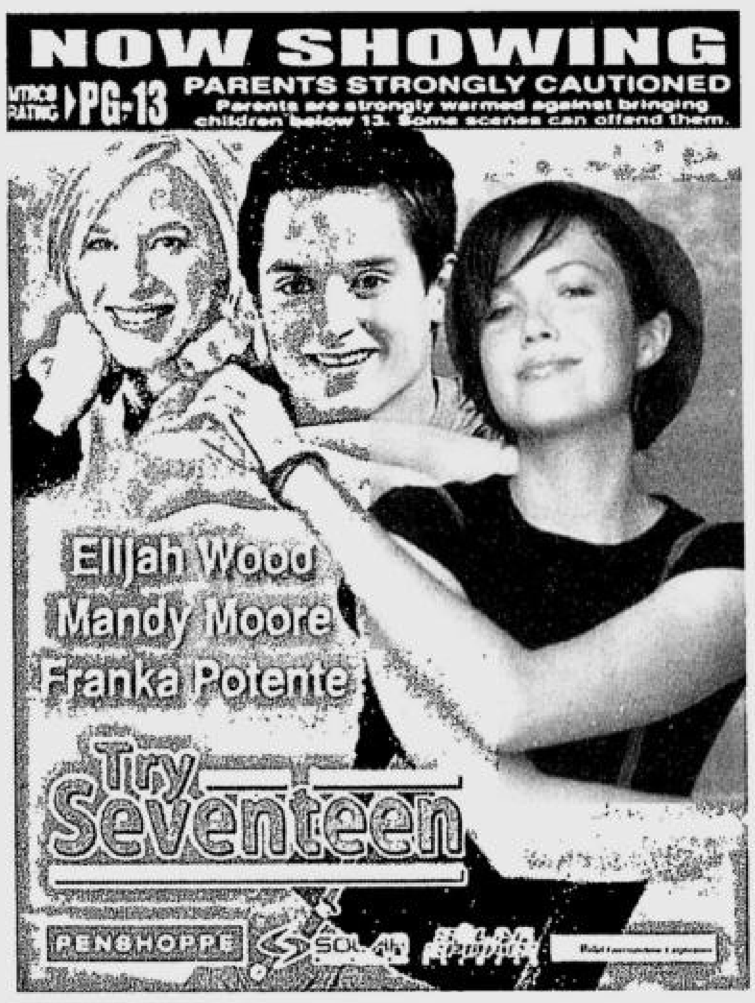
Marvin, who is turning 24 on Jan. 29, has been steadily establishing himself as one of the most promising talents in the industry, dabbling his hands not only in acting but in directing as well.

He made his directing debut via an MTV made for the ABS-CBN children's show, "Cyberkada."

This was followed by another job last year when he was tasked to do the MTV of "Hanggang," an entry to last December's "Himig Handog sa Kabataang Pilipino," the same song used for the theme of "Dekada '70."

As a way of thanking his supporters, Marvin will hold a grand fans' day and birthday bash at 4 p.m. today at Ali Mall Atrium in Cubao, Quezon City.

BIRTHDAY BOY. Marvin Agustin holds fans' day.



NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Parents are strongly warned against bringing children below 13. Some scenes can offend them.

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX
NOW SHOWING
CINEMA 1
LORD OF THE RINGS 2
11:20, 2:50,
6:20, 9:50
GP
CINEMA 2
HOT CHICK
12:00, 2:10, 4:20,
6:30, 8:40
P13
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

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ANDREW E.
RUFA MAE quinto
OGIE alcasid
PATRICIA javier
introducing Jenny Rosendahl
Directed by Al Tantay
VIVA
PASUKAN NA SA FEB. 12!

FEBRUARY 5
SEE GHOSTS
IN THE
EYES
OF EVIL...
THE EYE
NAYKUPUU...K-KITA KO SILA!! THEY'RE EVERYWHERE!!!

# Cory Quirino relives nightmarish …

From page A29

Ara Mina had instant rapport and chemistry on their first meeting for the project.

"She asked me everything she wanted to know," Cory grants. "She was sensitive enough to ask all the right questions."

Cory, who is the granddaughter of former President Elpidio Quirino, informs her film-bio will show snatches of her life from childhood to family life to her career and even her social life.

"The film will depict that I am a single parent," Cory says. "There are many details that the film will reveal which are not in the book. I admire Carlo because he was able to get a lot of input from me."

Caparas and Villa have been assured of the help of the National Bureau of Investigation through its director, Gen. Reynaldo Wycoco, so the script is faithful to the actual kidnapping incidents.

In fact, Wycoco has agreed to play himself in the movie.

Playing Cory's assistant **Helen Salaver** is young actress **Alessandra de Rossi**.

**Zoren Legaspi** is the merciless leader of the kidnapping gang.

Completing the cast of the movie are **Eddie Gutierrez, Joel Torre, Gloria Romero, Robert Arevalo, Tommy Abuel, Ronnie Lazaro, Maggie de la Riva** and **Ronaldo Valdez.**

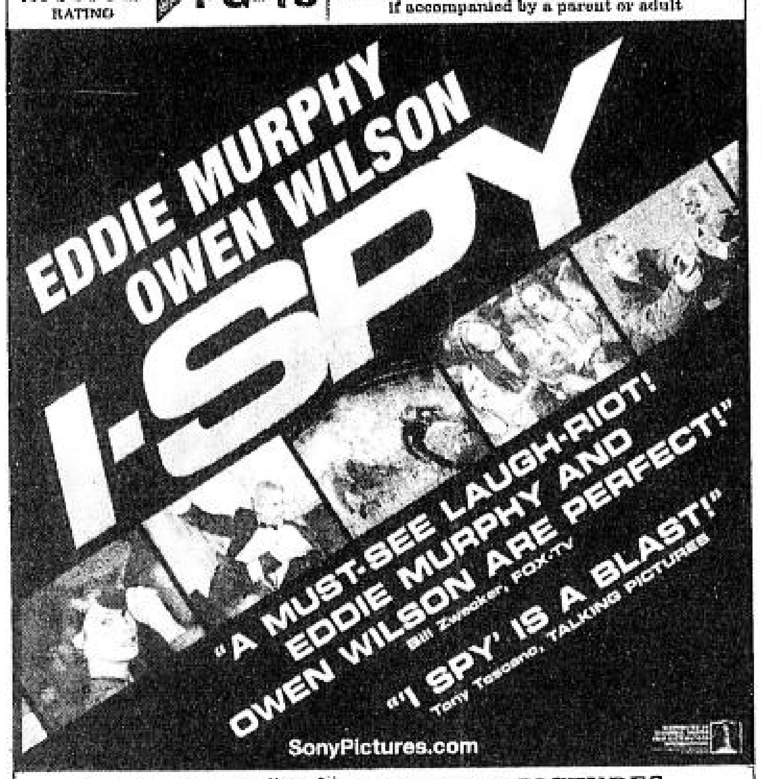
It is Cory's desire that her life story will serve as inspiration to others, with a message to impart:

"You have it in you to overcome anything, whether it's a heartache or a financial problem," Cory says. "There is a fighter and a survivor in you. And if you believe in miracles, they will really happen."

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ONE HOUR PHOTO<br>R18<br>11:10,1:20,3:30,<br>5:40,7:50,10:10 | 8 MILE<br>P13<br>12:50,3:10,5:30,<br>7:50,10:10 | ANALYZE THAT<br>P13<br>11:20,1:30,3:40,<br>5:50,8:00,10:20 |
| HOT CHICK<br>P13<br>11:00,1:10,3:20,<br>5:30,7:40,10:00 | THE RING<br>P13<br>12:40,3:00,5:20,<br>7:40,10:00 | LORD OF THE RINGS<br>"TWO TOWERS"<br>GP<br>11:30,3:00,6:30,10:00 |

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

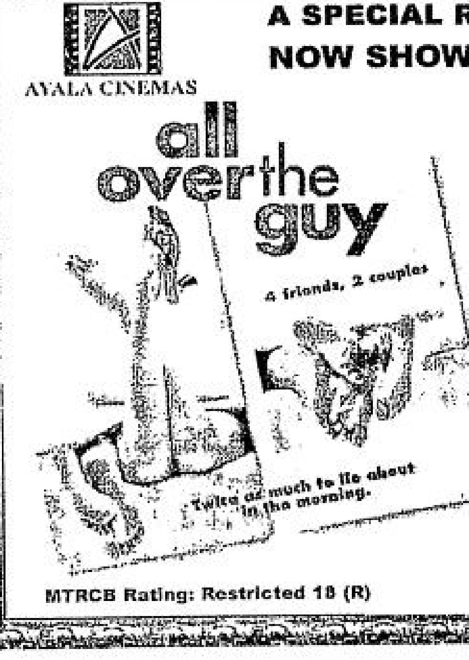

After 007 comes 009 ½
ACTION COMEDY BEGINS FEB5!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
EDDIE MURPHY
OWEN WILSON
I-SPY
"A MUST-SEE LAUGH-RIOT! EDDIE MURPHY AND OWEN WILSON ARE PERFECT!"
Bill Zwecker, FOX-TV
"I SPY' IS A BLAST!"
Tony Toscano, TALKING PICTURES
SonyPictures.com
Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

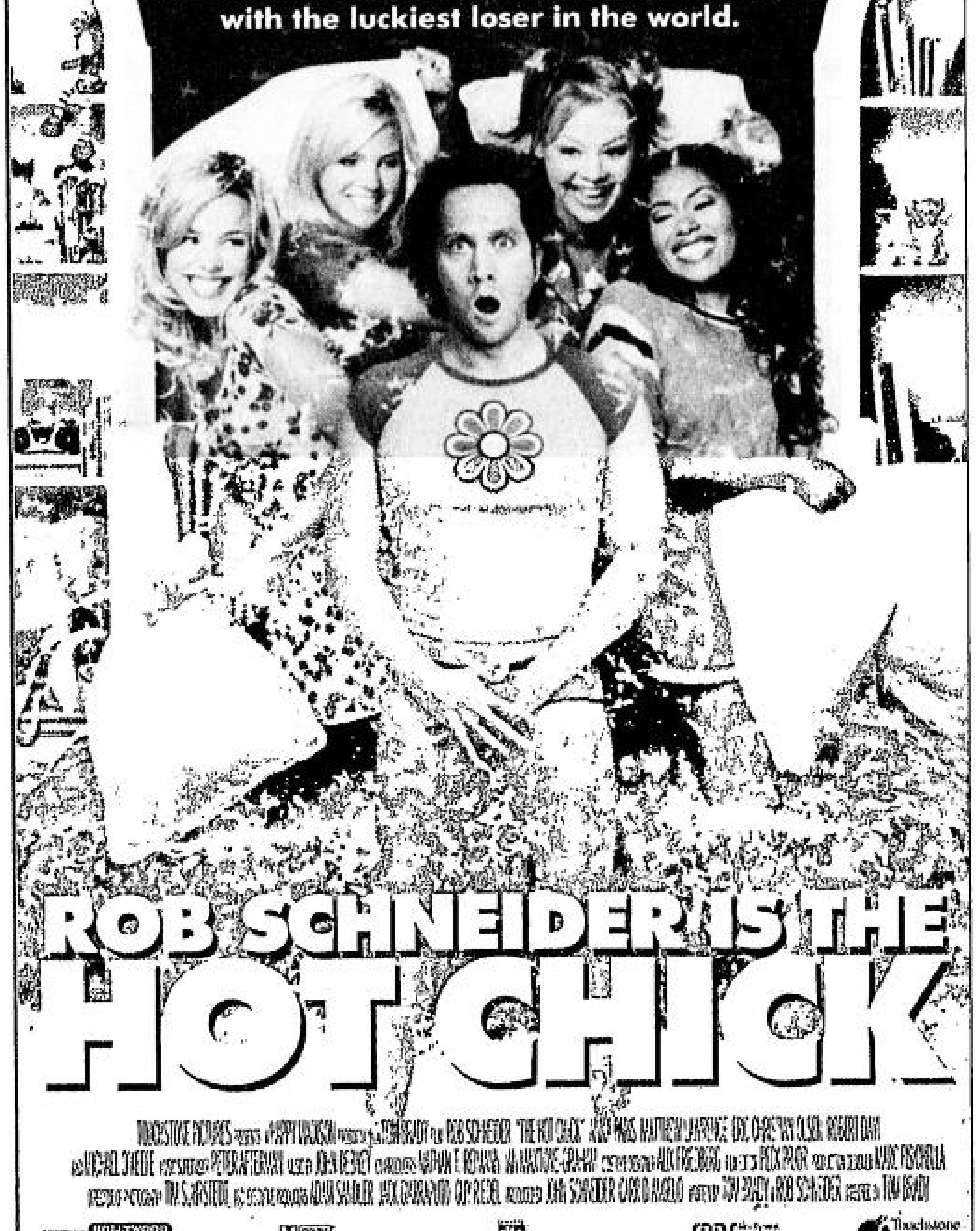
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
Parents are strongly cautioned not to bring children below 13 years old to watch this movie.
THE NO.1 FILM THAT RANG UP US$130 MILLION IN THE BOX OFFICE IS NOW HERE! DREAMWORKS PICTURES
BEFORE YOU DIE, YOU SEE
THE RING
NOW SHOWING

OPENS FEBRUARY 5!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult.
hugh GRANT sandra BULLOCK
Two Weeks Notice
A comedy about love at last glance.

FREE TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND AT AYALA CINEMAS
WIN A FREE TRIP FOR TWO
TO NEW ZEALAND
AT AYALA CINEMAS
WHEN YOU WATCH
LORD OF THE RINGS
EXPLORE THE WORLD OF MIDDLE EARTH
A JOURNEY TO NEW ZEALAND
SEE POSTERS AND LEAFLETS FOR MORE DETAILS
Promo runs from Jan 11 to Feb 9, 2003.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0102. Series of 2003.
Special Thanks to: PIONEER MANILA BULLETIN BUFFALO

AYALA CINEMAS
OPENS JAN. 29 only at ArtFilm GREENBELT 1
Off Key, aka Desafinado, is a Spanish comedy made in English featuring an international cast.
It is the story of three operatic tenors who performed all over the world together, until a disastrous performance in Mexico City, where they split for good. Now, they are getting together at the French Villa for the wedding of one of the three tenors to the daughter of another. To further complicate things, the bride's mother is married to the third trio member now. The father of the bride, who has fallen on hard times, hires a hooker to accompany him, and to help with his plot to reunite the trio as performers. The groom-to-be has a son, who isn't really his, and who secretly has the hots for the bride's mother.
Starring:
Danny Aiello, George Hamilton, Joe Mantegna
Anna Galiena & Ariadna Gil
OFFKEY
MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13
SKYFILMS NOKIA INQUIRER


AYALA CINEMAS
A SPECIAL RETURN ENGAGEMENT
NOW SHOWING only at ArtFilm GREENBELT 1
all over the guy
4 friends, 2 couples
Twice as much to lie about in the morning.
4 Friends, 3 Guys, 2 Couples
... You Do The Math.
Starring: Christina Ricci, Lisa Kudrow, Andrea Martin, Joanna Kerns, Nicolas Surovy
"This movie has enough energy and an entertaining, natural sense of humor to provide an enjoyable ride -- whether you're gay or straight."
-- Wesley Morris, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE
"Loaded with smart, sarcastic one-liners and clever potshots at sexless studio movies like In & Out."
-- Lou Lumenick, NEW YORK POST
"It's totally fresh and original, but All Over the Guy is nearly void of gay stereotypes."
-- Dave Kehr, NEW YORK TIMES
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R)
SKYFILMS NOKIA INQUIRER


HE'S HALF-PINOY, HILARIOUS, AND THE HOTTEST CHICK IN TOWN!
NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
The hottest chick in town just switched bodies with the luckiest loser in the world.
ROB SCHNEIDER IS THE HOT CHICK
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

| ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7 | |
|---|---|
| Ali 1 | 8 MILE |
| Ali 2 | THE RING |
| Ali 3 | HOT CHICK |
| Ali 4 | LOD OF THE RINGS 2 |
| Ali 5 | TRY SEVENTEEN |
| Ali 6 | ONE HOUR PHOTO |
| Ali 7 | ANAYLYZE THAT |
| **FARMERS PLAZA CINEMAS** | |
| Farmers 1 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| Farmers 2 | LORD OF THE RINGS 2 |
| **ARANETA COLISEUM** | |
| FEB 3 & 5 | NCA 7 COCK DERBY |
| FEB 15 | LANI MISALUCHA |
| FEB 18 | ABBA TRIBUTE CONCERT |
| **ELEPHANT WORLD** | |
| JAN 26 | 3 PM / 5 PM |
| JAN. 28 | 3 PM |
| JAN 29 | 10 AM / 3 PM |

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

| MANILA | |
|---|---|
| EASTERN | |
| MAXIM | CLOSED |
| MIRAMAR | ALIAS BOMBA QUEEN / EROTIC DIARIES |
| ODEON | BANGKERO |
| ODEON-2 | PAKAWALANG PUSO / APOY SA MAGDAMAG |
| ROBEN | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| TANDEM-1 | SUGAT |
| TANDEM-2 | KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO |
| TIMES | FRAILTY / BALLISTIC |
| **QUEZON CITY** | |
| ACT-1 | SENSUAL ISLAND |
| ACT-2 | KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT |
| ACT-3 | ORIGINAL SIN |
| ACT-4 | HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY |
| CORONET A | THE TOUCH / BALLISTIC |
| CORONET B | DOUBLE SEDUCTION |
| QUEZON-1 | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| REMAR | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| REMAR-2 | BANGKERO |
| **NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA** | |
| A | BANGKERO |
| B | MATAMIS HANGGANG DULO |
| C | |
| **MANDALUYONG CITY** | |
| SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL | 635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70 |
| CINEMA-1 | THE LORD OF THE RING |
| CINEMA-2 | ANALYZE THAT |
| **CAINTA RIZAL** | |
| STA. LUCIA EAST | (681-5401 TO 19) |
| CINEMA-1 | BANGKERO |
| CINEMA-2 | KERIDA |
| CINEMA-3 | SPIRIT WARRIORS 2 |
| CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) | LORD OF THE RINGS 2 |
| CINEMA-5 (DTS) | DIE ANOTHER DAY |
| CINEMA-6 | LASTIKMAN |
| CINEMA-7 | DEKADA '70 |
| CINEMA-8 | MANO PO |
| CINEMA-9 (DTS) | LORD OF THE RINGS 2 |
| CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL) | LORD OF THE RINGS 2 |
| CINEMA-11 (SDDS) | LORD OF THE RINGS 2 |
| CINEMA-12 | HALF PAST DEAD |
| CINEMA-14 | HEAVEN |
| CINEMA-15 | RING |
| **LORES** | |
| CINEMA-2 | SENSUAL ISLAND |
| CINEMA-3 | KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT |
| **NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN** | |
| CINEMA 1 | DIE ANOTHER DAY |
| CINEMA 2 | BAHID |
| CINEMA 3 | HARRY POTTER |
| CINEMA 4 | CHANGING LANES |
| **UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL** | |
| (PARAÑAQUE) | SENSUAL ISLAND |
| CINEMA-1 | KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT |
| CINEMA-2 | MEN IN BLACK II |
| CINEMA-4 | SELDA |

# Significant topics for future films

NOW that "Dekada '70" has reminded viewers of the traumatic martial law period in our country's history, and "Mano Po" has tackled the heretofore ignored Chinese experience and influence in the Philippines, we're encouraged to hope that movies will finally be made on other important aspects, personages and events that have been cavalierly scorned by our filmmakers for many years:

First, a film bio on **Ninoy Aquino**. The fact that it has yet to be made, 15 long years after his death as a martyr, is one of the major embarrassments of the local film industry.

The Edsa Revolution is an event that is also crying out for treatment on the big screen. Many years ago, such a film was attempted, but after one-fourth of it had been shot, the project fizzled out. Well, the success of the films like "Jose Rizal," "Dekada '70" and "Mano Po" indicates that local film audiences are eager to support substantial and relevant movie projects, and you can't get more substantial than a film on Edsa.

The **Cory Aquino** story is also excellent material for a film, separate from Ninoy. It could focus more on what she had to do to carry on his fight after he was murdered.

More controversially, a film that tells the real story of **Imelda Marcos** would be eye-opening and challenging.

A film on this American premiere and influence in the Philippines would also interest and fascinate viewers. It would help explain the roots of the love-hate relationship between Filipinos and Americans, and the borrowed culture that continues to affect the country in a major way to this day.

What about a comprehensive filmic look at the history of corruption in government, business and other key sectors? This would still be a story film, but it would provide case examples of electoral fraud, the better for them to be counteracted in 2004.

We would also like to see an anthology film about "ordinary" heroes, heretofore undistinguished individuals who have done something brave that's worth praising and emulating.

Films on outstanding and selfless teachers would also go a long way in motivating young viewers to make education a priority in their lives.

Faith and the Filipino is another topic that needs to be dealt with on film—our split-level Christianity, our way of combining religiosity and superstition.

And what about an honest-to-goodness film on the Filipino youth today, one that focuses on their real problems and needs, not on the usual escapist fluff?

### VIEWFINDER

*Nestor U. Torre*

These projects may be difficult to script and direct, but if they're done well, they will be appreciated by local viewers, some of whom have gotten sick and tired of the trivial and predictable flicks they've been seeing, year in and year out, *ad nauseam*, amen.

### Tinig Awards

AFTER an absence of 13 years, the National press club of the Philippines is reviving the Tinig Awards for outstanding singers, to be presented this March at the Manila Hotel's Fiesta Pavilion. The board of judges is composed of entertainment editors, columnists and newsmen.

### 10th Year

THE "PELIKULA at Lipunan" festival marks its 10th year in February with these special attractions:

A tribute to Comedy King **Dolphy**; 10 premieres including the screen adaptation of **Shakespeare's** "Titus Adonicans" with **Anthony Hopkins**, and the Mexican hit, **Carlos Carrera's** "El Crimen del Padre Amaro"; Asian films that have won international recognition, like **Shunji Iwai's** "All About Lily Chou Chou" (Japan) and **Pen-ek Ratanaruang's** "Monrak Transistor" (Thailand); and the premiere of **Koji Imaizumi's** "Small House," a coproduction between Japan and the Philippines shot in Baguio and starring **Joel Torre**.

The closing film is a tender gay classic, "Hush," about a Japanese male couple who discover a child. The festival will be held at SM Megamall from Feb. 12 to 18, in Iloilo on Feb. 21 and 22, and Baguio on Feb. 29 and March 1.

### Final birthday celebration

"SHARON" on Channel 2 at 5:30 p.m., today, Jan. 26 marks **Sharon Cuneta's** birthday with a concert special featuring **Zsa Zsa Padilla, Martin Nievera, Regine Velasquez, Jaya , Lani Misalucha, Ogie Alcasid, Janno Gibbs, Gary Valenciano, Aiza Seguerra**, Side A, The Company, **Rachel Alejandro, Geneva Cruz, Robert Seña, Dessa** and the UP Madrigal Singers.

Expect Sharon to be in the mood for singing, as well!

# Portes' 'Small Voices' . . .

From page A30

best foreign language film category at the 2003 Academy Awards.

Creating major buzz and receiving great reviews are Zhang Yimou's "Hero" from China; "The Crime of Father Amaro," Mexico; "City of God," Brazil; "8 Women," France; "The Man Without a Past," Finland; and "Nowhere in Africa," Germany.

"Small Voices" director Gil Portes, co-producer Ray Cuerdo, and this co-writer attended the reception party and the screening at the Annenberg Theater on Friday, Jan. 10 at 9 p.m. It earned apparent enthusiastic reception, as evidenced by the long and loud applause of the mostly teary-eyed international audience.

However, Portes and this writer missed the second screening in Palm Springs, scheduled on Jan. 16. They had to immediately fly to Thailand where the film was also set to be screened on the same day, at the 2003 Bangkok International Film Festival.

### Big honor

This time, "Small Voices" was in official competition against 11 other international entries for the filmfest's Golden Kinnaree Awards.

Among the finalists, chosen by the screening committee from hundreds of movies around the world, were Julie Taymor's "Frida," Takeshi Kitano's "Doll," Phillip Noyce's "The Quiet American," Aki Kaurismaki's "The Man Without a Past," and Pedro Almodovar's "Talk to Her."

To be included in such a distinguished list is a remarkable honor in itself.

Once again, the film was well-received by the jurors and the screening audience in the state-of-the-art EGV Cinemas in downtown Bangkok.

At the festival closing ceremonies, Thai Princess Ubolratana presented the awards. An elaborate dinner was served, while traditional music and dances were performed in honor of the VIP guests, which included international actress Michelle Yeoh, members of the popular band 'N Sync, and local Thai superstars and dignitaries.

**DIRECTOR AND WRITER.** Portes with "Small Voices" writer Senedy Que (right).

Earlier, action superstars Jean Claude Van Damme and Steven Seagal attended the opening ceremonies of the festival.

Spain's "Talk to Her," which recently won at the Golden Globe Awards, claimed the best picture and best director honors.

Michael Caine was adjudged best actor for his portrayal in "The Quiet American," while Finland's The Man Without a Past" took the awards for best screenplay and best actress (Annikki Tahti).

### Audience award

Two international festivals. Two continents. Twelve competing films. Twelve days. It is almost impossible to sum up in words the meaning of such incredible exposure to the best of international cinema. The images are all in my mind and in my heart.

On our Thai Airways flight back to Manila, director Portes received an urgent call from Los Angeles: "Small Voices" has won the Audience Award at the Palm Springs International Film Festival, along with Germany's immensely popular and wonderful Oscar submission, "Nowhere in Africa." What a way to end this particular journey.

The next stop of this movie world tour: Moscow International Film Festival in July 2003 where "Small Voices" has been officially invited to compete with the world's best films. It has also been invited for exhibition in Singapore; Newport Beach, USA; Milan, Italy; Paris, France; and Melbourne, Australia.

The humble Filipino film is still looking for its audience in its own country, waiting for its images to be seen, its inspiring voice to be heard. May this search finally end sometime this year.

*"Small Voices" is directed by independent filmmaker Gil M. Portes, and co-written by Portes, Adolf Alix Jr. and Senedy H. Que.*

*The film stars Alessandra de Rossi, Amy Austria, Gina Alajar, Dexter Doria, and Irma Adlawan. It also features breakthrough performances by newcomers Bryan Homecillo and Pierro Rodriguez.*

*The movie's theme song and original score were written by award-winning composer Joy Marfil. Cinematography: Ely Cruz. Editing: George Jarlego. Sound engineer: Noel Bruan. Field sound recordist: Ari Trofeo. Production design: Arthur Nicdao.*

*Senedy Que was nominated in the 1997 Metro Manila Film Festival and the Star Awards for his first screenplay, "Babae," which starred Nora Aunor and Judy Ann Santos, directed by Lupita Kashiwahara. He graduated with a film degree at the University of the Philippines and had done administrative work at Miramax Films and New Line Cinema in New York. He is currently a writer of ABS-CBN's "Game Ka Na Ba?" and "Sharon."*

Welcomes
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**BIO-PIC TEAM.** NBI director Reynaldo Wycoco (center) supports the filming of "The Cory Quirino Story," with (from left) director Carlo J. Caparas, lead star Ara Mina, Cory Quirino, lady producer Donna Villa and supporting cast Alessandra de Rossi and Zoren Legaspi (behind).

# Cory Quirino relives nightmarish kidnapping for film-bio

### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

*Leah Salterio*

NEARLY eight years after her harrowing experience in the hands of her kidnappers, **Cory Quirino** relives her nightmare for the screenplay of "The Cory Quirino Story," to be produced by Golden Lion Films, with **Carlo J. Caparas** as writer and director.

Cory admits it was a traumatic experience when she was abducted by five men at gunpoint in September 1995 in Lake Caliraya, Quezon.

"At the time I was kidnapped, I could only think of surviving, how to get out of it alive," Cory shares. "I didn't feel any hunger. My heart was always racing. I could hear my heartbeat.

"All I did was pray. It strengthened my faith. I surrendered my life. I didn't know the meaning of surrendering your life to God until that time. I felt stronger. I was guided until the time I was rescued."

Yet, even after she was freed, Cory had the fear that the incident couldn't be erased right away from her memory. But she was able to gather enough courage and strength to recount her ordeal not just before the court (which resulted to the death sentence of her five kidnappers), but also in a book, "Waiting for the Light."

Days after her rescue, Cory had received offers from three production outfits for her kidnapping experience to be filmed.

"But I prioritized writing the book instead," Cory says.

A year later, in 1996, she met with another producer whose choice to portray her on the big screen was actress **Dawn Zulueta**.

"In fact, I already met with Dawn and talked to her about the project," Cory allows. "But the film didn't push through. I guess it was not meant to be at that time."

Last year, the producer and director tandem of **Donna Villa** and Caparas, secured the rights to film Cory's life story.

"For more than six years, we tried to convince Cory to allow us to film her story," Donna says. "We are very thankful that she finally agreed this time."

Cory insists it was her commitment to the anti-crime crusade that made her eventually relent to a movie about her life.

"I prayed about it and I talked to my family," Cory says. "After I was kidnapped, I have become an anti-crime crusader. It's been a commitment for me. Then I realized it's time for me not to be victimized by my own fear."

**COURAGE AND STRENGTH.** The stuff Cory Quirino is made of.

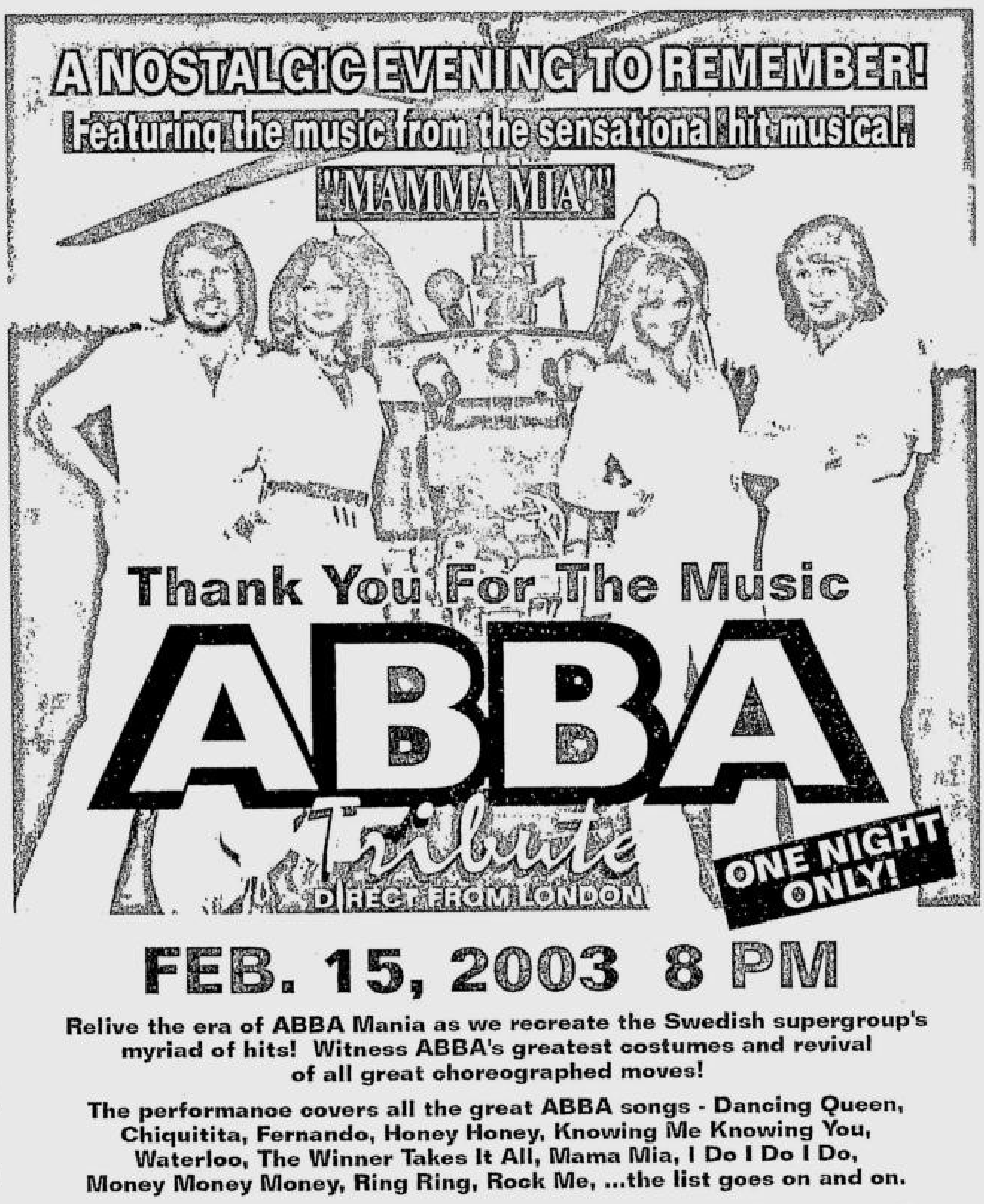
**Ruffa Gutierrez** was chosen to play the real-life role.

"But Ruffa decided to get married in March, so we had to choose another actress," Cory says. "When Donna and Carlo suggested **Ara Mina**, who won the best actress award in the filmfest, they asked me if I would consider her.

"I wanted the actress who would portray me to be sensitive, to be able to emote and feel the heart of the victim."

Cory was delighted when she and

CORY/ A28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ENTERTAINMENT

*Editor* Louie C. Camino

# Portes' 'Small Voices' heard loud and clear in other parts of the world

**By Senedy H. Que**
*Contributor*

WHAT does it take to make a Filipino movie that can win international acclaim and that could just break into the Oscars?

One true story that inspired a filmmaker. Three years in search of producers who would gamble on a movie that has no sex and violence. Seven versions of the screenplay. Five of the country's best yet underrated actresses leading a fine cast. Fifteen shooting days on a shoestring budget. Two months of post-production and strategic planning.

All these went into the making of a humble Filipino film that, to this day, has remained largely unseen and unheard of in its own country. The creative forces behind it simply refuse to give up. And look where they've been able to bring the little movie: around the movie world and beyond.

"Mga Munting Tinig (Small Voices)" had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2002.

This was followed by a series of sneak previews and a one-week theatrical run in Metro Manila.

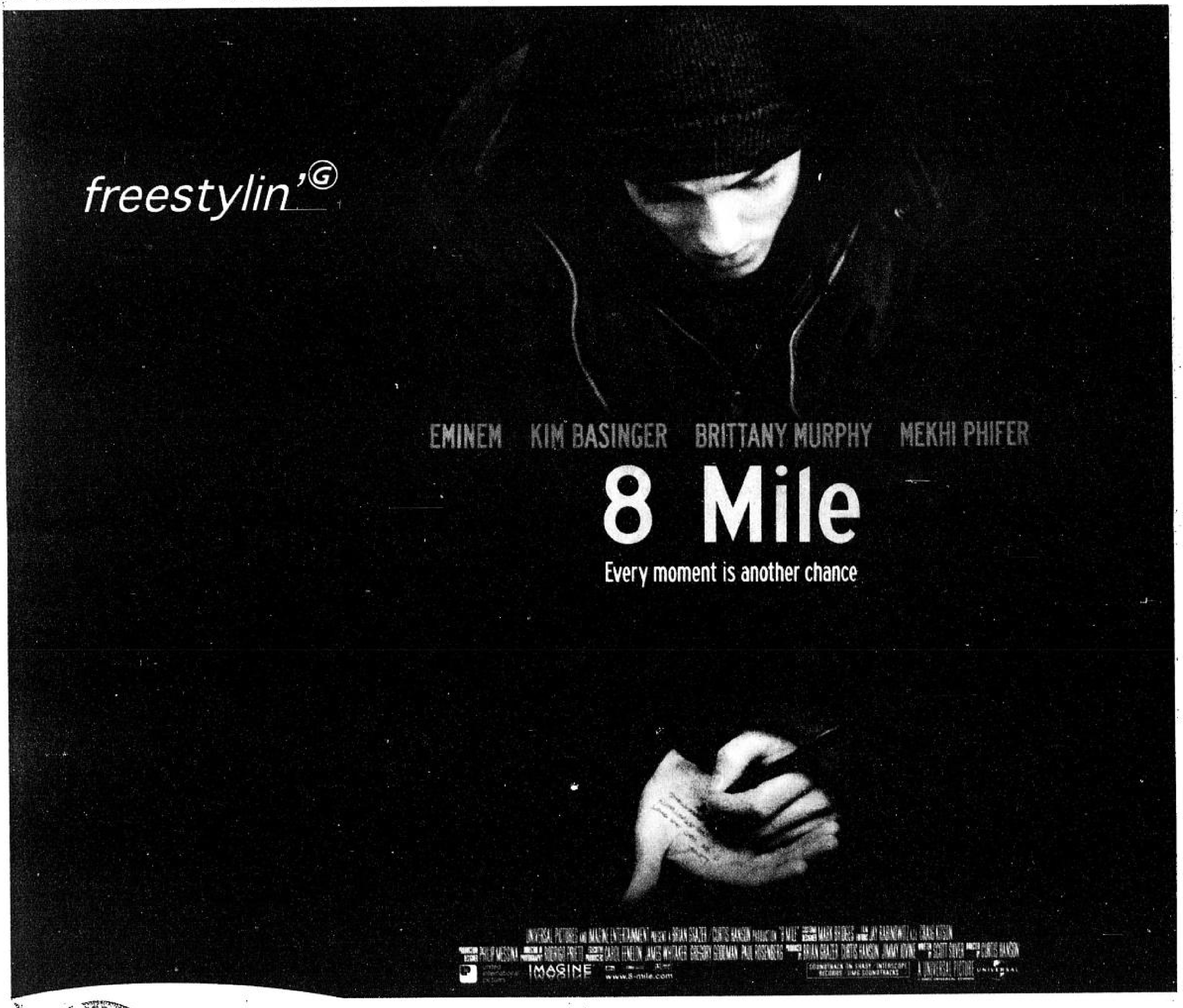
## Palm Springs

A month later, on the heels of its announcement as the official Philippine entry to the Oscars, "Small Voices" was also chosen as one of the 10 New Asian Classics by the AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival, along with such acclaimed works as "Chihwaseon" of Korea; "To Stay Alive," Iran; "Dark Water," Japan; and "Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress," China.

This year, the film's voyage commenced at the 2003 Palm Springs International Film Festival in California earlier this month. The highly-regarded, non-competitive festival proudly exhibited the official Oscar submissions of 45 countries, all vying to be nominated in the

PORTES'/A29

**BANGKOK BONDING.** Director Gil Portes with Bond girl Michelle Yeoh.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Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

# Branding defines this third generation

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

FOR the first and second generation of the Concepcion family, children should be involved in the family corporation. No ifs, and or buts about it.

So, at an early age, the Concepcion children were made to work in various departments of the company. And even if they did not like it, they had to do it.

Raul Joseph or Jojo Concepcion recalls going to the company factory when he was just seven years old to do odd jobs like putting rings in the copper tubes.

"Then I was moved to odd jobs in collection, finance, marketing, sales. We were only given lunch money and the people handling us were given instructions not to give us any special treatment," he recalls.

But today, Jojo cannot ask the same of his children. He shares this point of view with other members of the third generation who now sit at the helm of the company.

They no longer require their children, the members of the fourth generation, to get involved in the family business.

"My daughter is the eldest in the fourth generation. But my philosophy is I will give my children a different experience. It is not my expectation for her to work here. It is hard to force," Jojo, chief operating officer of CII tells SundayBiz.

"That was the thinking of the second generation. The first and second generations were very different," he adds.

Concepcion Industries Inc. has survived the management of two generations and the company appears to be operating smoothly under the third. CII chair Raul T. Concepcion remains involved in the operations of the country's largest maker of air conditioners but his children and nephews and nieces are already making the major decisions.

## Eldest

The eldest of the third generation is Renna Hechanova-Angeles, who says she has worked with CII all her life and there was no chance for her to work for somebody else. But members of the fourth generation would have the opportunity to try out something new.

She explains that the difference in thinking was also brought on by the fact that the third generation had to overcome different challenges compared with the first generation. As she says, there is a difference in situations.

Her grandfather, Jose Concepcion Sr., who started CII, had four children. The four had 21 children who all became involved with the conglomerate. The 21 children have 100 or so children and she says "that is already very *magulo*."

But passing on the company to the fourth generation is still a good 30 years down the road.

For now the members of the third generation are happy running the business and applying their own style and vision for the company. Their most recent move was to bring in a fourth brand to the firm—Toshiba.

ERIC ARAZAS

**THE CONCEPCIONS,** scions of Raul T. Concepcion: Jojo Concepcion, Raffy Hechanova and Renna H. Angeles

Concepcion points out that this is one of the distinguishing marks of the third generation—brand building.

## Foundation

Their grandfather did well in laying the foundations of the business and building the Condura white line. The brand stands for 'Concepcion durable appliances'. Then they became licensees of American brands—Carrier and Kelvinator.

The second generation built Carrier and Kelvinator, which the third generation continues to strengthen, while looking for opportunities to build other brands.

CII through Concepcion-Carrier Air Conditioning Co. (CCAC) struck an alliance with Toshiba Corp. of Japan to distribute the Japanese firm's white lines—aircons, refs, washing machines.

Concepcion says the challenge in bringing in Toshiba to the country is to create an awareness that the firm makes much more than laptops and TV sets—products that the Japanese firm is known for in the country.

Toshiba is a 127-year old firm founded by a Japanese named Tadashi Okamura, with a highly-diversified global business that covers information and communications, credit and finance, software system and development, semiconductor manufacturing equipment, home appliances, industrial machinery and equipment, electronics components and entertainment.

It has 100 subsidiaries outside Japan, and employs 40,000 people worldwide.

The Concepcion's alliance with Toshiba will create about 200 jobs as the plan involves moving the Japanese firm's factory for window type air-conditioners to the Philippines from Thailand

Director for sales and marketing Rafael C. Hechanova Jr. says "that is the difference between the traders and us."

Local manufacturers are constantly threatened by imports. Although traders can sell some of the goods at lower prices, consumers face the problem of after-sales service when buying from them.

Meanwhile, the alliance with Toshiba also means an inflow of foreign investment—much needed in the Philippines which is struggling to bring in capital from abroad.

The entry of Toshiba is in a way a test for the third generation in CII as this is one of their major decisions. The three are aware of this but are confident that the venture will succeed.

To ensure smooth operations and decision-making, Concepcion says there is constant communication between them.

## Communication

"We have respect for each other's ideas and we harness each other's strengths to our advantage," he says.

He points out that CII is strong in corporate planning and Hechanova adds that the second generation brought them up well.

"We grew up together, we work together. We are more balanced than imbalanced," he says.

Concepcion and Hechanova al-

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# Uniform makers band together to sew a common goal

THEY used to be the fiercest competitors, even giving each other "the eye" whenever they would encounter one another in biddings and presentations. But a common desire to help their threatened industry brought them together.

Today, the 40 plus members of the Uniform Manufacturers Association of the Philippines or Umap are working on the same side. Friendly competition has replaced the cutthroat, intrigue-ridden environment.

"We are talking about millions of contracts here so we kept our trade secrets close to our chest. Everyone in the industry was considered a rival and we guarded our front, back and sides with utmost care," described Umap president Digna Rosales of the situation then.

But the importation of uniforms from countries such as China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Taiwan and Korea made them take stock of themselves, and the local uniform manufacturing industry. How could they compete against the unbelievably low priced imported products if they remained fragmented?

At stake is a 250,000 work force and about P2.8 to P3.5 billion in annual income.

Also, last March, Buy Philippine Made Movement chair and former Sen. Ernesto Herrera, issued Memorandum Circular No. 20, calling for the use of locally made fabrics in manufacturing uniforms for government offices. The initiative seeks to rehabilitate and invigorate the local textile industry. With the memo , Umap members knew organizing was imperative.

Initially, the use of all locally made fabrics was unthinkable for uniform manufacturers because of the perception that its quality was inferior to the imported ones. But Carissa T. Cervantes, president of her own uniform manufacturing company, noted: "We have locally made fabrics that are very excellent. When you go to Divisoria, the sellers pass them for imported. So people who do not know any better think that we don't have good quality locally made fabrics."

## Vision

Umap also set a standard among its members as far as materials, quality and workmanship are concerned. Rosales says this will prepare them to be globally competitive. The Umap tag/seal of approval will now be on all the products of its members to ensure the utmost quality required of each member.

"Creativity will be the edge of the Filipino uniform manufacturer to compete with the others. *Dito tayo lalaban*," Rosales added.

Umap members are already getting a lot of practice. In consortiums that are normally formed among its members to meet big orders, rigid rules are being applied. Cervantes, for instance, describes at least an eight-step procedure of correcting and re-correcting patterns before actual production starts.

Members are also asked to comply with specific rules on documentation, similar to those required in government pre-qualification biddings, to be able to join the group. Cervantes said this serves as a training for members who want to procure government contracts on their own.

Umap's main goal, however, is to be able to help employment and provide livelihood. The use of locally made fabrics will definitely trigger an increase in employment. Umap is also now working on a common factory for members who form part of consortiums. Consolidation of manpower, resources and effort will save a lot of money for them and will solidify the group further, Rosales explained.

## Uniform do's and don't's

Like any other fashion piece, uniforms also get affected by current trends and forecast in style, color and materials.

Umap shares some guidelines for uniform making:

1.Through the years, banks and insurance companies have always leaned toward the classic corporate styles in their uniforms to exude confidence and authority. Avoid flamboyant styles and aggressive colors.

2. Hotels and airlines usually have themes, usually patterned after the nationality of their ownersh. Umap's Carissa Cervantes suggests the creative use of embroidery or local touches (e.g. sarong-cut skirt for a Thai-owned establishment.) to emphasize the corporate theme.

3. For the academe, uniforms should not be very corporate-looking. "Teachers need flexibility for movement. Comfort is the primary consideration. Colors should be happy," Cervantes noted.

4. Government uniforms are usually big on details—piping, embroidery, top stitching, etc. These can be used creatively to avoid being on the boring side.

5. Skirt lengths should be knee-length or at the shortest, one inch above the knee. Mini skirts are no-nos, unless they are for establishments such as a casino or a beauty parlor.

6. Uniforms may be modern but not too trendy, according to Umap vice president Liway Pelayo. "Even if the trend now is toward showing more skin, uniform necklines can't be too deep to show the cleavage.

No shocking colors please.

**INCREASED** competition from China, Indonesia, Vietnam has forced local uniform makers to band together to protect themselves.

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## Branding defines . . .

From page B1

so stress they did not grow up with an infinite source of cash. They had to earn it.

Renna says her brother Raffy worked odd jobs while studying in Canada.

Raffy says he sold T-shirts, worked for Sunlife of Canada, a haberdashery and even did gardening.

Jojo, who was neighbors with Raffy, says he and his brother were given $300 each for their food, laundry and other expenses while abroad. He says that if they needed anything else, they had to pay for it themselves.

Self-reliance and independence are now coming into play as they run the business themselves.

Concepcion adds that their most valuable trait in running the business is corporate ethics and their drive and determination to achieve.

He adds that they all work long hours, averaging 15 to 16 hours a day.

"Which is why unlike the others we don't get a chance to play golf," Raffy adds. Renna jokes, "which is why we are all this big. No time to exercise."

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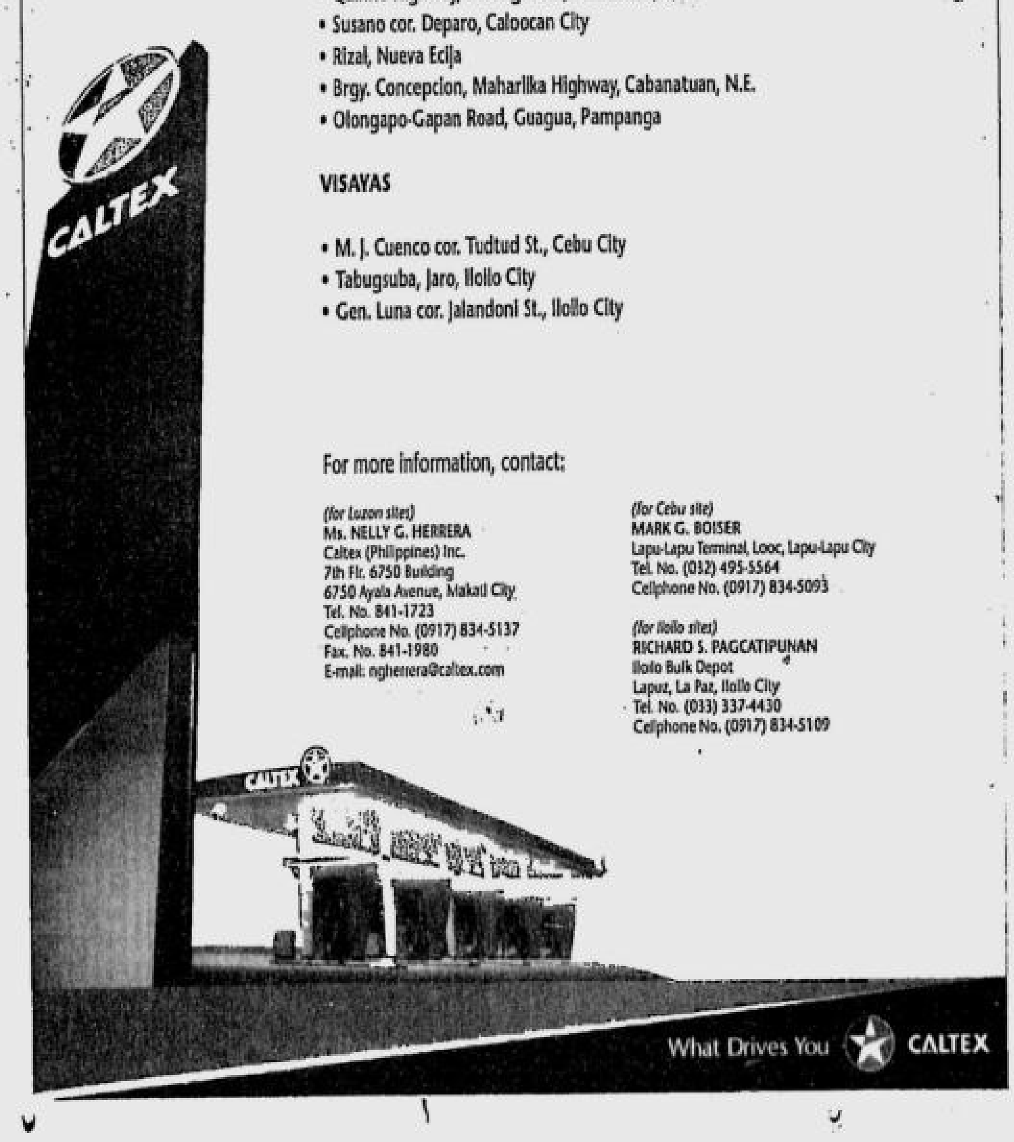
What Drives You CALTEX

# Cashmere sweaters–now much softer on the wallet

NEW YORK—Cashmere, once the luxury hallmark of people of a certain stature, is going mainstream as low manufacturing costs have made it affordable.

With the growth of cost-effective production in Asia enabling mass-market retailers to make the sumptuously soft garments available for well under $100, they no longer adorn only debutantes, ladies-who-lunch or celebrities.

Sweaters, made from the downy undercoat of mountain goats, have been sold at warehouse club stores recently, just steps from jumbo containers of nacho cheese.

"Cashmere used to be perceived as this ultra high-luxury, expensive product, and now we're being introduced to single- and two-ply cashmere, a yarn that's being used to give high perceived value to a low-priced product," said Marshall Cohen, co-president of market research group NPD's fashion division.

At Gap Inc.'s Banana Republic chain, cashmere turtlenecks for men and V-neck sweaters for women are marked down to $69.99. Cashmere addicts on smaller budgets can get a luxury fix with a small accessory, like a headband for $19.99 or gloves for $29.99.

The latest cashmere sweater from Ralph Lauren's Black Label was priced $595. But polo.com, the website operated by Polo Ralph Lauren Corp., has a sweater from the designer's new Blue Label line on sale for $99.99.

"We're seeing the high-end market utilizing these luxury yarns ... to substantiate high prices. And then we're also seeing the introduction of luxury yarns at lesser quality and lower price points in value stores," Cohen said.

So far, cashmere remains a status symbol. But in time, experts say, consumers will find their bargain cashmere didn't hold up as well as expected, and this could ultimately erode the yarn's cachet.

With the rise of global sourcing in the textile industry, experts say there has been a boom in low-cost production of cashmere sweaters and other items where there wasn't any before, namely in China.

"The Chinese have a lot of capacity, a lot of people and a lot of machines. And the raw material is raised there," said Karl Spilhaus, president of the Cashmere and Camel Hair Manufacturers Institute.

Cashmere fiber comes from goats native to the high plateaus of central Asia. The major suppliers are China, Mongolia, Tibet and to a lesser extent, Iran and Afghanistan. Today, the Kashmir province of India, from which the name is derived, is not a major supplier.

The fiber is prized for its softness, light weight and warmth, which protects goats from cold mountain temperatures. It has a high moisture content that allows the fiber's insulating properties to shift with the relative humidity in the air, making it wearable in all climates. *Reuters*

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WARRANTY

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

# Ex-busboy finds his fortune in goat cuisine

**By Frank Cimatu**
*PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

## PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

BAGUIO CITY—Three years ago, Amando Ortiz III and wife Diana were contemplating the type of food their eatery in Barangay Scout Barrio here should specialize in.

But even then they had already decided on the eatery's name, "Tabligan's Eatery," after Diana's maiden name, because she and her eight siblings are very popular in the neighborhood and known for their expertise in food.

One of Diana's siblings serves Filipino food, another specializes in barbecue and the other has fast-food type fare.

Since other food types were taken up, the Ortiz couple settled on goat, which caught people by surprise.

Diana, like most women, doesn't like goat meat or mutton and Amando is not really an expert in goat cooking. But they went ahead with their plan and now, Tabligan's is one of the most popular restaurants in Baguio City.

Goat is not that popular in the Cordillera. The Bureau of Agricultural Statistics reported that last year, the Cordillera produced the least number of goats in the country with 37,406, contributing only 1.2 percent of the country's total.

The biggest goat-producing regions are Central Visayas with 465,462; Ilocos, 420,898; Southern Mindanao, 361,353; and Western Visayas, 358,287.

These four regions account for two-thirds of goats raised in the Philippines, estimated at 3.185 million in 2000.

Most of the goats produced in Cordillera come from Abra, whose residents have an Ilocano palate.

Goat is also not a traditional ritual animal in the Cordillera unlike hogs, chicken, carabao and dogs.

The Ortiz couple started the eatery in November 1999 and during the first six months of their operation, they slaughtered only one goat a day. Since they started with only had four dining tables, their sari-sari store remained their main source of income.

Ortiz perfected the art of cooking mutton until he became a connoisseur, producing even a unique dish that he simply called *"adobong kambing."*

"It was a combination of secret spices and condiments cooked adobo-style. It became our main selling point," Diana said.

They also served *kalderetang kambing, pinapaitang kambing, kilaweng kambing* and *sinampalukang kambing,* using all parts of the goat, except the bleat.

Their client base widened from just their neighbors to include top government officials and businessmen. Their dining area's sitting capacity reached 100, filling up what used to be the yard and playground in their compound.

"There are days when we would even serve some of our guests inside the house," Ortiz said.

When asked about their success, the Ortiz couple can only shrug their shoulders.

But what distinguished Ortiz from other starting entrepreneurs was that he had a good idea of how to properly serve his dish.

He started as a busboy at the Manila Hilton and climbed the ranks to become managing waiter. In 1981, he married Diana and settled in Baguio.

But service beckoned and he found himself in Jeddah working again as a waiter at the Jeddah Sheraton and later at the Riyadh Sheraton and the Oman Holiday Inn.

While in the Middle East, he befriended the Filipino and foreign cooks who taught him how to cook goat and lamb dishes.

When he returned to Baguio for good in 1998, he thought of putting up a small eatery to while his time away. Little did he know that it would be a 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. job all over again.

Amando buys three to four goats at the Baguio City market early in the morning and prepares the dishes. His crew is composed of 10 cooks and waiters, all their relatives.

AMANDO and Diana Ortiz of Tabligan's Eatery

Customers come at about noon until 2 p.m. Most of their clients are military personnel here for a visit to the Philippine Military Academy, government employees, businessmen, politicians and foodies.

But as Ortiz himself realized, goat is still a delicacy to many people.

In the Philippines, goat represents only 2 percent of the value of production from 1999 to 2001 compared to hog, which comprised 43 percent, and chicken and eggs, which comprised 42 percent.

Per capita consumption was only 0.44 kilograms in 1999, from a high of 0.68 kg in 1990. But goat consumption is on the rise.

Tabligan's also serves other dishes like Soup No. 5, lechon kawali, silet (innards), *kare-kare,* fish fillet, pork sisig, pork chop, beef steak, beef callos, chicken curry, seafood paella, grilled liempo, grilled bangus, beef with oyster, beef with mushroom, seafood medley, spare ribs, *lengua escarlista, lengua sevillana* and beef *salpicado,* but these are still considered alternatives to the goat banquet.

Vegetable dishes are sold at P40 per serving, sinampalukang kambing (goat meat in tamarind soup) and Soup No. 5 at P70 and the rest at P60.

Tabligan's earns from P2,000 to P3,000 a day and is open only for lunch. The establishment is closed on Sundays.

The eateries at the Baguio slaughterhouse remain among the best places to eat good goat stew but Tabligan's emphasizes cleanliness in the preparation of its dishes.

There are also the few extras like free Benguet brewed coffee, soup and bananas.

"Most of our clients come from far away and this is our way of paying them back," Ortiz said.

# *Ilocos Sur pushes goat-raising*

**By Leoncio Balbin Jr.**
*PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

SANTA, Ilocos Sur—Aside from its famous Virginia tobacco, Ilocos Sur wants to be known as the "goat capital" of the North to boost business opportunities for Ilocanos in the Year of the Goat.

The provincial government has embarked on a large-scale goat-raising project this year to provide Ilocanos food and livelihood.

Using boer goats imported from the United States in 2000 as breeders, the provincial government aims to raise the biggest goats in the country this year.

Boers are larger than native goats and weigh between 70 and 90 kilograms each. Native goats have an average weight of between 15 and 20 kg.

Gov. Deogracias Victor Savellano said the provincial government imported eight boers—three bucks (males) and five does (females)—three years ago to start the project.

The breeders were kept in three barns in a 23-hectare farm in Barangay Bangaran here and in a breeding station in Barangay Labot.

Savellano said the provincial government had spent more than P2 million for the project and decided to bring it to various villages in the province this year to generate extra income for farmers.

In November last year, Savellano said they distributed bucks to various village organizations that have raised at least 40 native does to start the breeding and production program.

Savellano said he never doubted the potentials of the program.

"Ilocanos alone are known for their huge appetite for goat meat. Currently, there is scarcity in the supply of goat meat," he said. "Our ultimate goal is to have sufficient supply of goat meat and sell these in our public markets."

Another component of the program is the commercial production of goat milk.

Yoko Tsukahara, a volunteer of the Japan Overseas Cooperation who is supervising the program, says they are raising goats bred from pure oberhasli and boer goats.

Tsukuhara said oberhasli goats, which were imported from the US, were good milk producers as they can yield 1.2 liters of milk a day.

She said goat milk, which she described as "next to mother's milk," was more nutritious than cow's milk and does not cause allergy.

Tsukuhara also said the demand for goat milk is high in Japan.

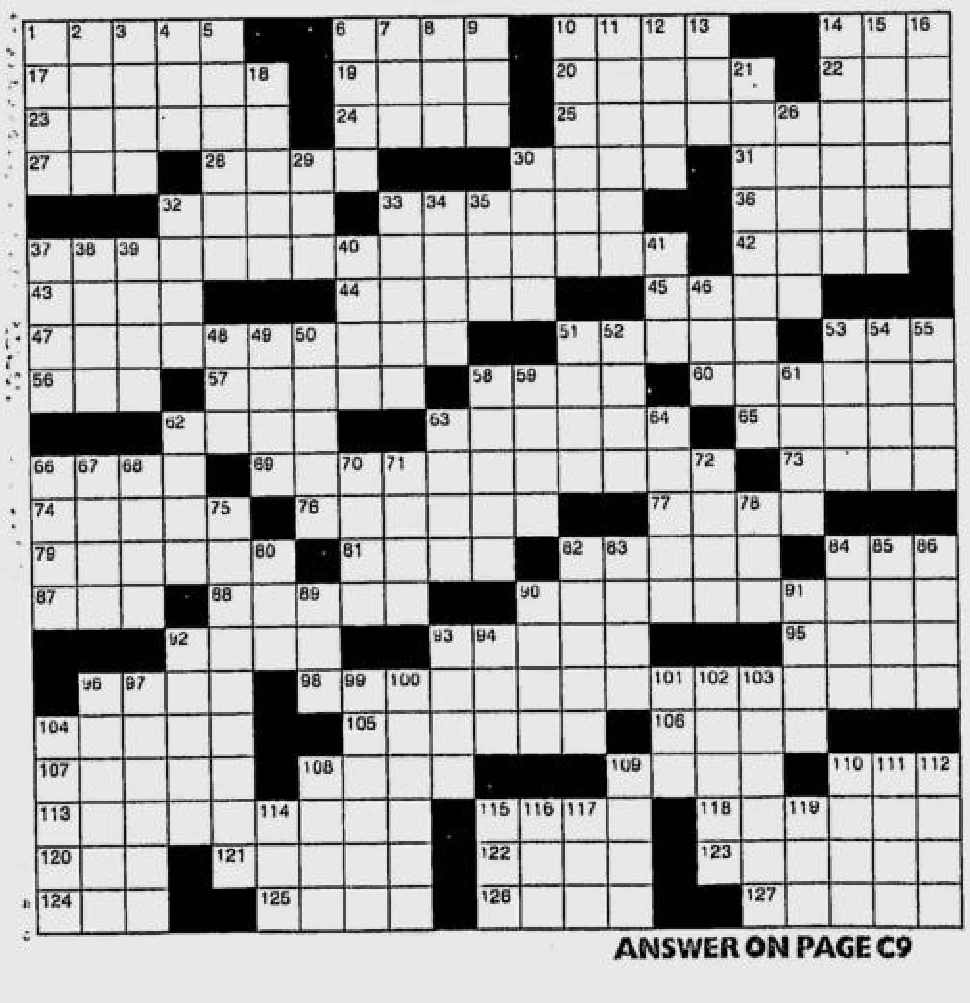
## SUNDAY CROSSWORD

### PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

### REELIEF!

ACROSS
1 Brno bloke
6 "— Show" ('94 film)
10 Ferber or O'Brien
14 Hum bug?
17 Buy back
19 Till
20 Approaches
22 — -Locka, FL
23 Luanda's land
24 "— fixe"
25 Start of a remark
27 Curly poker?
28 Way out
30 Actress Sorvino
31 Donizetti's "L'elisir d'—"
32 Tizzy
33 French novelist
36 Sell out
37 Part 2 of remark
42 Richard of "Love Me Tender"
43 Wine valley
44 Cabinet wood
45 Pack the freight
47 Upset
51 Panache
53 Weldon or Wray
56 Horatian creation
57 Christened
58 Role for 80 Down
60 Ida of "High Sierra"
62 Wear out the carpet
63 Vaccaro or Lee
65 Barbara's rank
66 Holler
69 Part 3 of remark
73 Sausage segment
74 Knock for — (astonish)
76 Ran amok
77 Dashboard feature
79 Explosive mixture
81 No pleasure trip
82 Complains
84 You can retire on it
87 "Casualties of War" setting
88 Pigeonhole
90 Resilience
92 Carpenter's tool
93 Celebrations
95 "Rule Britannia" composer
96 Unadorned
98 Part 4 of remark
104 Mr. Hiss
105 Paradisiacal
106 Romain de Tirtoff
107 Nero's instrument
108 From the top
109 Big rig
110 Deity
113 End of remark
115 George of "Scarface"
118 Journalist Fallaci
120 — Na Na
121 Sharon of Israel
122 Comrade
123 Expire
124 Shorten a skirt
125 Valuable
126 Linen in the beginnin'?
127 Rhythm of life

DOWN
1 Learn fast?
2 Paradoxical philosopher
3 Maugham's "The Razor's —"
4 Corporate VIP
5 Actress Bonham Carter
6 Pack it in
7 Sturm — Drang
8 "Graph" ending
9 Caldwell or Akins
10 Don a uniform
11 Want
12 Astronauts' agcy.
13 School subject
14 Colombia's capital
15 Screenwriter Nora
16 Consumed
18 Adage
21 Percussion instrument
26 PR concern
29 Robert of "Quincy, M.E."
30 "The Ghost and Mrs. —" ('47 film)
32 Nab a gnat
33 Heaped
34 Funnyman Foxx
35 Be obligated
37 — -European
38 "You — It!"
39 Chartres part
40 Ming thing
41 Pie — mode
46 Feel awful
48 Genetic info
49 Apiece
50 Daub
51 Ward (off)
52 New Jersey borough
53 Pacific archipelago
54 Shortly
55 Michael of "Cabaret"
58 Stream
59 Expect back
61 Damper
62 Conspire
63 Eight bits
64 Llama turf
66 James of "Brian's Song"
67 — mater
68 Corn Belt soil
70 Core
71 Skin feature
72 Present
75 Cartwright ranch
78 "Just — thought!"
80 Ms. Taylor
82 Mont —
83 Relaxation
84 Logroll
85 Sicilian smoker
86 Stained
89 Middling mark
90 Morlocks' prey
91 Rib —
92 Amphitheater feature
93 Expanded
94 Writer Rand
96 "Hail to thee, — spirit!"
97 Massachusetts city
99 Thin covering
100 Swimmer Gertrude
101 Elfin
102 Strong suit
103 Foment
104 Simian
108 Saucony rival
109 Charon's river
110 Sheffield slammer
111 Burden
112 Granola fruit
114 Rink legend
115 Brit. fliers
116 Dryden's "— for Love"
117 Neighbor of Ga.
119 Shiba — (Japanese dog)



ANSWER ON PAGE C9

# Wife knew the path she wanted to take; husband created the road map

LIEZL Carpo-Enriquez always knew where she wanted to be in the local retail scene—from buying and selling clothes to friends and schoolmates and school bazaars up to her first big venture with two friends.

Months before college graduation, the friends were already eyeing a concessionaire's contract at the then-novel concept that was Sari-Sari.

Fresh from the University, the three eagerly and proudly combined their earnings from school bazaars and the Greenhills *tiangge* to come up with the initial capital for their break into "big time" business.

For a while, they sold the clothes they designed outsourcing the production from a cooperative of contract sewers in Pasay City.

From that venture, each partner went her separate way to set up her own retail outlet.

That's when Liezl's LIMITED line was born. Noticing how every other stall and outlet in the Greenhills boutiques and and *tiangge* would sell the same clothes from Hong Kong, she stayed with selling clothes she designed herself—fashionable staples, with a regular turnover, at very reasonable prices.

LIEZL and Mike Enriquez: Complementary creative logical work system

LIMITED'S new outlet at SM Bicutan

LIMITED's growing clientele encouraged her to open other branches. Within the next two years, she had opened two branches in Makati.

These stores went all right, considering the entire business was managed on a day-to-day basis, with stocks kept in the basement of her parents' house. A backyard enterprise, so to speak.

Seeing how much work Liezl put into her growing business and the joy she derived from it, on top of managing her growing family, husband Mike Enriquez (then a fresh graduate of the Ateneo Graduate School of Business and Fordham University) asked her where she was "taking" Limited, and what her vision for the company was.

Although her "I want to have a retail giant!" answer was meant to sound flippant, she did have a vision for further growth.

The only thing that was stopping her was not being able to manage the work required for a plan of such magnitude on her own.

Taking a cue from her answer, Mike prepared a business plan and helped Liezl set out to reach her goal.

They borrowed capital to expand, and while Liezl continued to take care of sourcing and producing merchandising materials, Mike dove into "professionalizing" the business from the workflow, to the finances, to the personnel.

Today—two years later—they have nine branches, a warehouse, a work system that ensures the smooth flow of operations, dedicated and enthusiastic employees including the pioneers in both head office and outlets, and best of all, no debt.

The current set-up is, apart from being president of the company, Liezl decides on the merchandise every fashion "season."

She also takes care of the production and each store's "look", and handles Marketing and Promotions. Mike, now full time with the company, runs the business as General Manager.

It's been said that there is wisdom in a husband and wife working separately in their own field of interest, thus avoiding conflict and competition.

Mike and Liezl Enriquez know, however, that inspite of daily struggles and challenges, the current status of their business would not have been achieved without their combined and complementary creative-logical work system.

# Who pays the price for a Bvlgari?

**COYIUTO** in Bvlgari Topkapi pochette scarf in silk blue; Pavone light aquamarine necktie.

**BUSINESSMAN** Kevin Limjoco in Bvlgari Diagono Professional GMT watch in gold with rubber strap and gold deployante buckle, Nodi necktie, Rettangolo belt, man's wallet in brown croco, zipped keyholder in chocolate grain leather and men's sunglasses.

From page B16

The Italian brand tapped five of its clients in the Philippines to talk about their brand choice and pose with their favorite lines. These include Dennis O. Valdes, President of Inquirer Publications, Inc.; Samuel "Sammy" Coyiuto, SVP of Prudential Guarantee; pediatrician twins Arnel "Aye" Nuguid, and Romeo "Ome" Nuguid; and businessman Kevin Limjoco.

**Why do you like Bvlgari?**

**Valdes:** I call it "cache", the ambience of the whole brand! Bvlgari is an attractive brand name, so exotic connoting the old European quality.

**Coyiuto:** I like Bvlgari because of its distinct style and shape aside from its function. It's also fashionable in the real sense.

**Arnel Nuguid:** Personally, I don't mind spending a considerable amount of money for an item with good quality and excellent style. Bvlgari possesses both.

**Romeo Nuguid:** Bvlgari offers a wide variety of items. It perfectly suits my lifestyle and personality. It's simple, casual yet quietly elegant. It can be formal too and not flashy. Any Bvlgari item, be it watch, jewelry or accessory always stands out!

**Limjoco:** The reason why I like Bvlgari is its heritage and design. It's never boring and coming from an old prestigious European House, the brand has maintained its finest quality through the years.

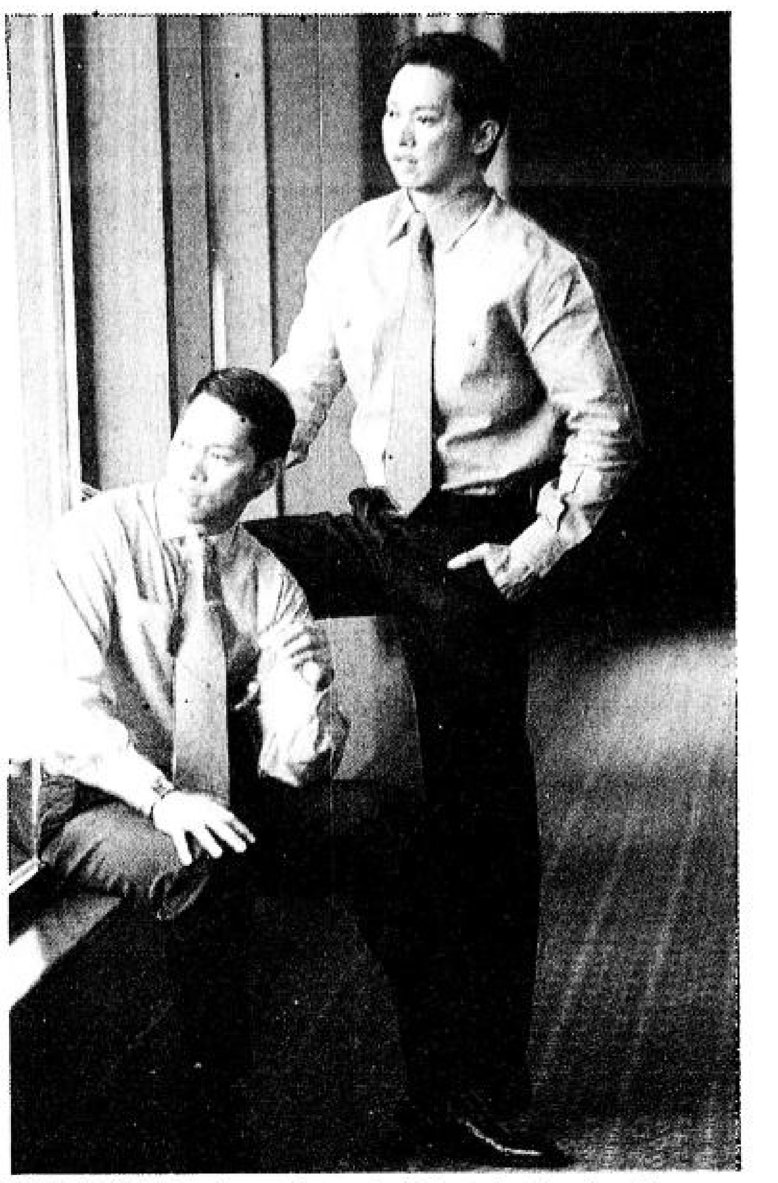
**What is your favorite Bvlgari item at the moment, and why does it appeal to you?**

**Valdes:** I like the Bvlgari "Chronograph Sports Watch" in 18k yellow gold and steel. It's well-made with solid weight—heavy and very manly, not effeminate. I also fancy the silk necktie in blue with the St. Exupery design.

**Coyiuto:** Among my many favorite Bvlgari watches are the "Rettangolo", the "Scuba GMT Diver's" watch and the Bvlgari-Bvlgari classic. I also wear the bracelet and other accessories like belt, cufflinks and wallet.

**BVLGARI** Eccentrica pen, amber grain leather diary.

**BVLGARI** Chrono watch in all steel, Scudi necktie in anthracite.



**BVLGARI** Rettangolo watches and belts for twins Arnel and Romeo Nuguid; Tagli neckties in China color and Rosa Venti in blue, Bvlgari men's sunglasses.

PHOTOGRAPHER: ROMY HOMILLADA
VENUE: COURTESY OF SHANGRI-LA MANILA HOTEL ALONG AYALA AVE.

**Arnel:** At the moment, the Bvlgari "Rettangolo" watch is my favorite. Its size, design and the workmanship is just perfect for me. I like the Bvlgari ties as well.

**Romeo:** My favorites are the "Rettangolo" and "Aluminium" watches of Bvlgari. There is this silk necktie in blue with white prints that I find interesting. The accessories line—watches, ties, cufflinks are all attractive and special.

**Limjoco:** The ladies jewelry line appeals to me. It's very exceptional specially the sets in necklace, earrings and bangles. I enjoyed viewing the line. I love it! The designs are tasteful and elegant without being gaudy. As for the men's line, I like the "Diagono Professional GMT" watch in yellow gold with rubber bracelet. It's elegant and yet can be casual and sporty depending on what outfit (e.g. can be used for my scubadiving and when I'm in jeans or slacks) I'm wearing. It suits my active lifestyle.

**Does your girlfriend/wife or immediate family members prefer Bvlgari too?**

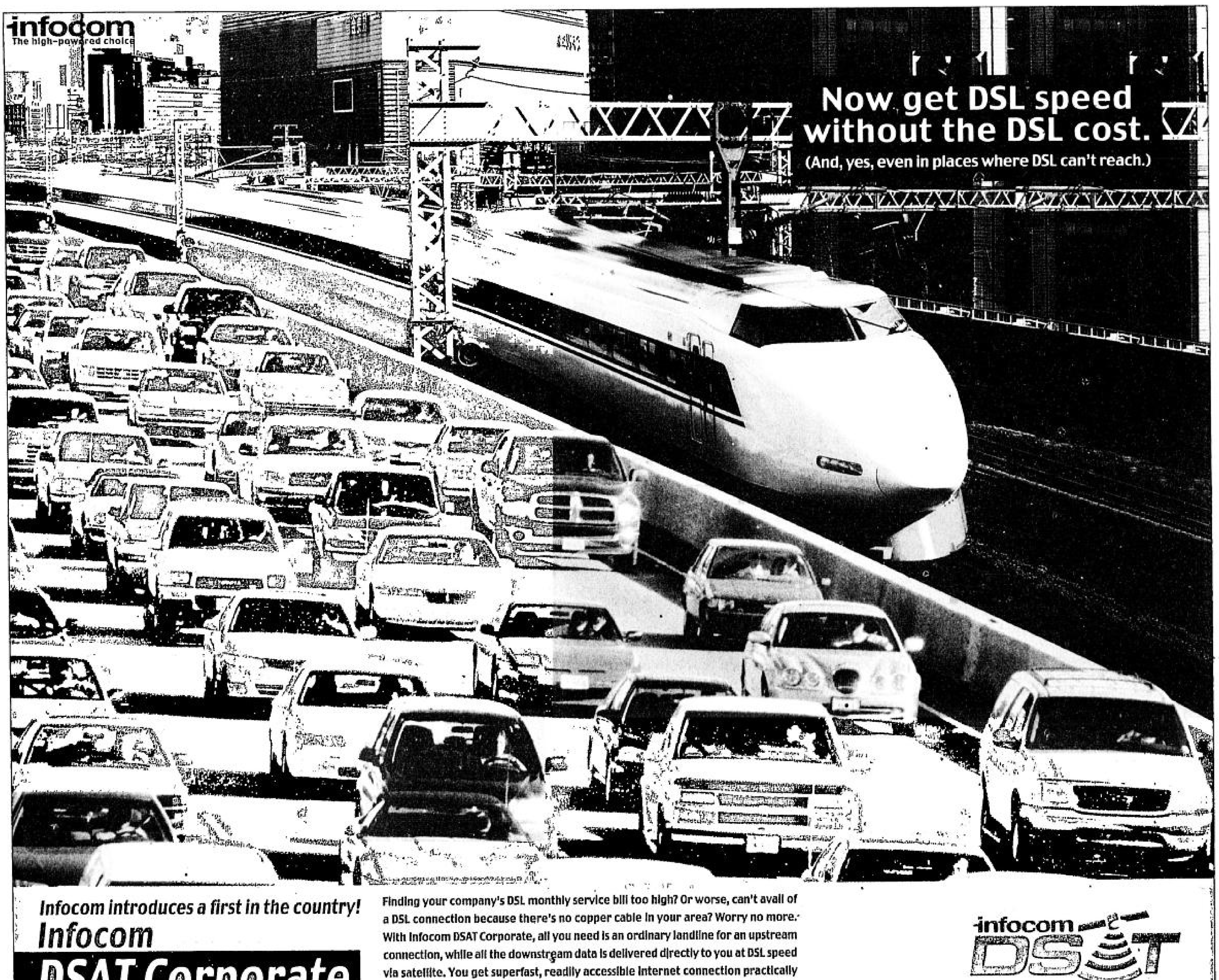
**Valdes:** My wife, Tessa and I attended the Bvlgari "B.zero 1" watch launch during the "Manila's Five Loveliest Ball" last Sept. 4. I gave Tessa for her birthday the new ladies "B.zero 1" watch in mother of pearl face with stainless steel casing with lilac pearlized strap. She loved it and it has been her day to day watch.

**Coyiuto:** The ladies in my family—my sisters and sisters-in law patronize Bvlgari. Of course, the ladies go for jewelry. Bvlgari items make great gifts too!

**Arnel:** Actually, my younger twin brother, Romeo "Ome" is way ahead of me in terms of patronizing Bvlgari. That guy really has good taste!

**Romeo:** I had my Bvlgari watch three years ago and my twin brother "Aye" liked it and soon he became a Bvlgari buff, too. My brother has impeccable and discriminating taste. However, he is more cautious in terms of investing. He has to make sure the quality is excellent, no less.

**Limjoco:** Yes, my wife was very happy with the Bvlgari jewelry I gave her.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- Excellent written and verbal English communication skills.

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Interested applicants are invited to send their application letter and CV by e-mail not later than February 7, 2003 to: carephil@care.org.ph and carrillo@care.org.ph

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**SALES REPRESENTATIVES**

- Male/Female, must not be more than 35 years old
- College graduate (Pharmacist will be an advantage)
- With pleasing personality and good oral & written communication skills
- Hardworking, goal-oriented and self-motivated
- Must have experience in handling key and tertiary accounts

**ACCOUNTING STAFF & ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL**

- Female, must not be more than 30 years old
- With pleasing personality
- College graduate from a reputable school
- With experience working with an auditing firm will be an advantage
- Must have the potential to be a supervisor

**SALES PROMO/MERCHANDISER**

- Male/Female, must not be more than 30 years old
- At least high school graduate
- At least 5'2" with pleasing personality

Please submit your resumé at:
Little Tikes Showroom
33-B Shaw Blvd., San Antonio
Pasig City 1600
or call Vivian Garcia at:
634-2450 to 52

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## Urgently Needed for 2003 Expansion!

**MEDICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE**

○ Single, 20-28 years old
○ College graduate of any allied science courses
○ Highly personable, energetic and w/ pleasing personality
○ With or without experience

**EQUIPMENT SERVICE TECHNICIAN**

○ Graduate of any technical courses, ECE preferred
○ With good analytical ability, can interpret schematic diagrams, and perform diagnostic trouble shooting
○ Highly motivated and with good interpersonal skills

UNITED MEDICAL SUPPLY
68 Pres. Osmeña St., Litohomes Subd.
Rosario, Pasig City
Tel. No. 656-5898

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**Oxfam**

Oxfam GB's purpose is to work with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering

Oxfam Great Britain's Philippine Programme needs a

## Disaster Management Programme Coordinator

- To manage its disaster management and humanitarian action programme, including the management of staff, finances and donors
- To lead in strategy and programme development, including policy analysis and advocacy formulation and strategizing
- To ensure the quality and impact of the programme and emergency responses, ensuring that gender inequality is addressed

**Core Competencies:**

- Leadership and self-management
- Conceptual, critical and analytical thinking
- Initiative, drive to achieve results, ability to develop effective organizations
- Ability to work effectively with others, adaptable and flexible

**Essential Specifications**

- At least 3 years management experience, with competencies in programme development , monitoring and evaluation and personnel management
- Strong analytical, conceptual and policy advocacy skills; in particular, an ability to rapidly assimilate, analyze and report on complex information
- Mature understanding of issues in development and preferably disaster management, and an ability to incorporate gender into analysis, programme strategy, implementation and M&E
- Ability to manage multiple priorities and work under pressure and to deadlines, sometimes in situations of stress and uncertainty
- Good interpersonal skills and the ability to work sensitively with people from various cultural and social backgrounds
- Willing and able to travel frequently, for extended periods, and to remote areas
- Computer literate
- Fluent written and spoken English

**Desirable Specifications**

- Work experience in conflict areas
- Knowledge of any Philippine language other than Tagalog
- Training experience

Submit application letter with complete CV to:

**THE PROGRAMME REPRESENTATIVE**
**OXFAM GREAT BRITAIN**
**95-A MALUMANAY STREET**
**TEACHERS' VILLAGE**
**DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY 1101**
**FAX: 927-0499**
**E-MAIL: manila@oxfam.org.uk**

Closing date : 14 February 2003
Interview date : 26 February 2003

**Only shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview.**

**Previous applicants need not apply.**

**A FAST GROWING FOOD OPERATIONS COMPANY IN CALIFORNIA, USA, IS LOOKING FOR A TALENTED AND HARD WORKING INDIVIDUAL TO BE ASSIGNED IN ITS HEAD OFFICE FACILITY IN LOS ANGELES.**

**THE REQUIREMENT:**

## Research & Development Manager

**THE JOB:**

Reporting to the Chief Operating Officer, this position shall be responsible for product development and packaging of new products. The job will also include product enhancement, process improvement and possible raw material substitutions as well as all technical aspects to improve margins and extend product shelf life.

**THE COMPETENCIES:**

- Expertise in Baking/Culinary/Dairy Science
- Product and Process Mastery
- Food Chemistry
- Packaging Technology
- Knowledge in Sensory Evaluation and Preparation of Experimental Design
- Product Costing
- Strong Leadership Qualities
- Strong Business Perspective

**THE SPECIFICATIONS:**

- A diploma in BS Food Technology, Chemistry, Chemical Engineering or other related courses. A post graduate education or attended courses in specialized field related to his/her profession is an advantage
- Has gained over 10 years work experience in R&D in the same capacity in a culinary, dairy or bakery companies
- Knowledgeable on Good Manufacturing Practices and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points
- With Computer Literacy

Interested parties may submit their written application with comprehensive resumé and latest 2x2 picture at the:

**Human Resources and Admin Group**
QC 2003-02
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F St. Anthony's Building
891 Aurora Blvd. cor. Oxford St.
Cubao, Quezon City

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A **multi-billion** manufacturer of *health, beauty,* and *personal care* products invites prospective candidates for

## DISTRIBUTOR BUSINESS PARTNERS

**OBJECTIVE:**

To professionally handle key accounts servicing, secondary/tertiary accounts distribution, and implement the company's business direction in the assigned territorial coverage.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Has proven track record and business clout in the territory / industry that can directly support trade marketing efforts of the Company. Must indicate his desired area of coverage.
- Solid years of experience, preferably with multi-national companies, dealing with fast moving consumer products distribution.
- Sound organizational leadership and management, core values, and have continuously exhibited strong initiatives with previous / other principals.
- Sufficient financial standing and willing to submit to financial competency and logistics/resource requirement capability verification by the company's business development group.

A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE AND PROBABLY ONE OF THE MOST FINANCIALLY VIABLE DISTRIBUTOR'S SCHEMES IN THE INDUSTRY, AWAITS THE SUCCESSFULLY CHOSEN BUSINESS PARTNER.

Applicants are required to express interest through a **Letter of Intent** together with a detailed **Company Profile** and proof of qualifications to the address below **not later than January 30, 2003.**

**DISTRIBUTOR BUSINESS PARTNER**
**P.O. BOX 1126**
**Quezon City Central Post Office**

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**WANTED IN-HOUSE LAWYER**

- Preferably could handle Civil Case related to Corporate Practice
- Male/Female (30-35 Yrs. old)
- Strong personality

For further inquiry, call 733-8316 to 20

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Looking for **CHEF**, expert in Filipino Cuisine / 25-40 yrs. old / with 3-5 yrs. experience. Fax resumé @ 551-5168 or 832-5769

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# NURSES

**RYMEK ENTERPRISES, INC.**, The Healthcare Personnel Specialists, is hiring another 500 nurses for placement in the USA. To join the close to 2,000 nurses we are presently processing on behalf of over 100 sponsoring facilities (hospitals and nursing homes) nationwide. We invite you to join our growing family of happy and satisfied nurses.

### WANTED: CGFNS PASSERS

We will reimburse your CGFNS fee. We will consider even those without hospital experience. Bring your complete credentials for immediate hiring. If qualified, we will sign you up for TOEFL, TSE, NCLEX at our expense. And we will start your immigration processing asap. (If you took the July & November exams, and you are still waiting for your result, we will consider your application pending receipt of your passing result). Come see our friendly staff.

### JOB FAIR SCHEDULE

| Date | Venue | 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM |
|---|---|---|
| Sunday - February 16 | Rothman Hotel, Adriatico St., Ermita | Manila |
| Tuesday - February 18 | Dynasty Court Hotel | Cagayan de Oro City |
| Thursday - February 20 | L'Fisher Hotel | Bacolod City |
| Saturday - February 22 | Cebu Midtown Hotel | Cebu City |
| Monday - February 24 | Marco Polo Hotel | Davao City |

**The Package**

- Immigrant visa sponsorship (FREE)
- All-expenses-paid trip to Saipan (NCLEX)
- FREE NCLEX fees, licensing fees
- FREE CGFNS/NCLEX/TSE review
- FREE TOEFL, TSE, Visa Screen fees (reimbursement for those who already passed)
- 3 months FREE housing
- FREE legal fees
- FREE plane fare to USA
- NO salary deduction
- NO Agency fee

For more information, visit our web site: www.rymek.com

**Rymek Enterprises, Inc.**

**USA**
29 N. Fairview Ave., Paramus,
New Jersey 07652
Tel. (201) 368-8200
Fax (201) 368-8513
E-MAIL: info@rymek.com

**Davao City**
2nd Floor, ASIC Bldg.,
Bonifacio St.,
Davao City
Tel. (082) 225-0157

**Manila**
1633 Adriatico St.,
Unit #16, Ermita
Tel. (02) 404-3438

**Bacolod City**
PNA Bldg.
1st Lacson St.
Tel. (034) 434-7408

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**JKA Countrywide Credit Corp.**

***QUICK SALARY LOAN !!!***

**Call: 410-38-24 • 413-52-99**
**533-18-02 • 535-74-27**

**HEAD OFFICE:** 385 Boni Avenue, Mandaluyong City
**QC BRANCH:** Unit B, San Antonio Bldg., 1595 Quezon Ave., Q.C.
Visit our Website: www.jkaccc.com E-mail: loans@jkaccc.com

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## WANTED IMMEDIATELY

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

A foreign assistance organization has an immediate need for an ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. The incumbent will be responsible for providing administrative support working closely with his/her counterpart in the organization. The incumbent must be able to meet the administrative requirements of the office independently with minimum input and supervision. His/Her primary responsibility will be to take all administrative actions required to ensure that the financial and administrative requirements of the office are met which include formulating and administering operating budget, travel and transportation budget; maintaining and updating key computer data; performing procurement-related activities; processing requests for general services; and, monitoring of leases regarding renewals, payments, terminations, and preparing other related materials and documents. Minimum educational requirement is completion of secondary school but a Bachelor's degree in business management, administration, and /or financial management is highly preferred or the equivalent of four (4) years administrative experience . From three (3) to five (5) years of progressively responsible experience in two or more phases of administrative management with working experience in an international organization highly preferred. An excellent command of English (both written and oral) is essential. The ability to effectively use MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint is required.

*Competitive salary (including mid-year and year-end bonuses), health and life insurance, and a retirement plan is offered.*

Interested persons should send their application letter and comprehensive resume, **not later than February 07, 2003**, to :

Human Resources Division
P.O. Box EA 423
1000 Ermita, Manila

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***NORTH STAR International Travel, Inc. is in need of the following personnel for immediate hiring:***

### OPERATIONS MANAGER

- ✓ Male or Female
- ✓ Not more than 35 years old
- ✓ BS Degree holder from a reputable college or university
- ✓ Minimum five (5) years work experience on a related field of work in a IATA accredited Travel Agency
- ✓ Knowledgeable in AMADEUS or other CRS, Fares and Ticketing
- ✓ Computer literate (MS Excel & Word)
- ✓ Excellent in oral and written communication
- ✓ Excellent work habits and job attitude

### SECRETARY TO EVP

- ✓ Female
- ✓ Not more than 27 years old
- ✓ Graduate from a reputable college or university
- ✓ Preferably single with pleasing personality
- ✓ Computer literate (MS Word, Excel, and Power Point)
- ✓ Ability to comprehend a simple instructions, short correspondence, and memos
- ✓ Ability to write simple correspondences
- ✓ Has excellent oral and written communication skills

Qualified applicants may send their application letter, comprehensive resumé indicating telephone/cellular phone numbers, recently taken 2x2 ID pictures, photocopy of transcript of records and other credentials to:

**Administration Department**
**North Star International Travel, Inc.**
**GF, Heart Tower Condominium**
**108 Valero St., Salcedo Village**
**Makati City, Metro Manila**
**Philippines, 1227**
**Tel. No. +63 2 812 1978**
**Fax No. +63 2 815 6392**

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ZAMBOANGA A. E. COLLEGES
IS IN SEARCH FOR

## CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER (CAO)

Zamboanga A. E. Colleges, located in Zamboanga City seeks candidates for the position of Chief Academic Officer. ZAEC is the largest tertiary higher education institution in Zamboanga City specializing in degree and non-degree courses at the associate, bachelor and graduate levels. Most of the programs have been granted Level I and Level II accreditation by the PACUCOA.

The Chief Academic Officer shall report directly to the Chief Executive Officer. Responsibilities include the overall management of 7 academic departments serving 13,000 students, budget preparation, curriculum review and development and state of the art technology, strategic planning, promoting a collegial environment and participation in academic-related senior management decision-making. Governance is team-oriented, lean, collaborative and fast-paced. The successful candidate shall provide strategic leadership for the development and delivery of educational programs of the highest quality for a dynamic college and identifying potentials for academic collaboration both within and outside the college.

Candidate should have broad leadership experience in private and public college/university management and significant academic credentials. The candidate should possess a PhD or EdD academic qualification. The College offers an excellent benefit package and salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

For confidential consideration, please send resumé and letter of intent to:

**Search Committee for CAO**
**Human Resources Department**
**Zamboanga A. E. Colleges**
**Zamboanga City 7000**

**Tel: 062-991-1135**
**Fax: 062-991-1826**
**E-mail: filgayo@zaec.edu.ph**
**www.zaec.edu.ph**

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**RRJM International Manpower Services Co.**
POEA License no. 457-LB-121401-NL

Domestic Helpers for Hong Kong

**SUNDAY MAIDS CENTRE** POEA Accreditation No. 4173

Basic Salary HK$3,670.00/mo.

Qualifications:
- 21 to 35 years old, at least 5 feet in height
- Minimum High School Graduate
- With Good English Comprehension
- With Good Moral Character & Hardworking

Requirements:
- Valid original Passport
- Original NBI
- 2 pcs. New 2 x 2 colored picture

**URGENT!!!!!**

SMDC Human Resources Srvcs. - Singapore

**Chief Housekeeper (Female)**
Duties: To manage, organize and plan for all the maids and servants in the house.
Criteria: Min. 2 yrs. experience as a manager (either Housekeeping or Food & Beverage or General Manager) in a big hotel.
Salary: S$1,700 per month + free food & accommodation

**Chief Chef/Cook,** will report to the Chief Housekeeper
Criteria: Min. 2 yrs. experience as chief cook in a big hotel.
Salary: S$800 per month + free food & accommodation

Mudar Charitable Society – A Social Service Dispensary in Dammam, K.S.A. that currently employs more than 20 Filipina Nurses is in need of additional Nurses.

Female Nurses
- Registered, with at least two years experience w/out any service gap
- Basic Salary of SR1,300 + SR9.00 per hour for the overtime + free accommodation, one month vacation every 2 years with pay w/free ticket
- Should have attended an IV Fluid Training Course

Interested applicants may visit us every Monday to Friday from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm at the following address:

Units C & D ECRDC Condominium
No. 498 Barangka Drive corner Talumpong St.
Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila

For more info contact us at tel. no. 5339946 or thru e-mail at rrjmintl@info.com.ph

Reminder: RRJM International does not have agents. Specifically it does not allow anybody or any agents to collect money or to conduct interview. All interviews are held only on the above mentioned address.

---

JOB MARKET Now on-line at www.inquirer.net **Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.**

## SUBIC BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Is currently accepting application for the following positions:

### GOLF OPERATIONS MANAGER

Qualifications:

- ✓ Preferably male, not more than 40 years of age;
- ✓ Must have at least 3 years experience in a golf course operations;
- ✓ Must be a golfer;
- ✓ Must know how to organize tournaments;
- ✓ With knowledge in golf scoring system;
- ✓ With good communication skills and must be a customer service-oriented;
- ✓ Decisive and willing to work long hours;
- ✓ Must know how to train Caddies, and
- ✓ Willing to be relocate/assign in Subic

### GOLF OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR

Qualifications

- ✓ Preferably female, not more than 28 years of age;
- ✓ Must have at least 2-3 years experience in a golf course operations;
- ✓ With good communication skills and must be a customer service-oriented;
- ✓ With strong leadership and PR character;
- ✓ Willing to work long hours, and
- ✓ Willing to relocate/assign in Subic

### ACCOUNTING HEAD

Qualifications:

- ✓ Preferably male (Filipino-Chinese), not more than 30 years of age;
- ✓ BS Accountancy graduate;
- ✓ CPA, with excellent leadership;
- ✓ Professional in handling all areas of accounting;
- ✓ Computer literate;
- ✓ With knowledge of cost accounting procedures and familiar with cost report preparation and analytical techniques;
- ✓ Honest and efficent; and
- ✓ With excellent and oral and written communication skill

### FOOD & BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR

Qualifications:

- ✓ Male or female, 28 to 35 years of age;
- ✓ Preferably HRM graduate;
- ✓ With at least 3 years experience in the same position in hotel or Chinese restaurant is a plus;
- ✓ Leadership and PR character;
- ✓ Knowledge in cost control and procedure in F&B section;
- ✓ Willing to work long hours

Interested applicants may send their resumé at:
Subic Bay Golf & Country Club
c/o Administration Department
Bldg. 6900, Binictican Drive,
Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Olongapo City

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## 4-DAY AUCTION SALE

On the instruction of our client upon the completion of several major projects

### SUPERB LATE MODEL CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, STRUCTURAL STEEL, MATERIAL STOCKS, LOOSE TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

IN OVER 4000 LOTS INCLUDING:

**HYDRAULIC EXCAVATORS** - SAMSUNG MX-222-LC (1996)
**WHEELED EXCAVATOR** - SAMSUNG MX-202-LC (1997)
**TRUCKS & TRAILERS** - SSANGYONG SY69T 40T Tractor Head (1997); (2) ISUZU U-FTR 32LZ Dropside Trucks w/ 8T cap. Boom Arm (1997); (2) HYUNDAI IAH2AA Dropside Trucks w/ 6.5T cap. Boom Arm (1997); ASIA 7500 Liters cap. Water Truck; 50T cap. Low Bed Trailer; (3) HYUNDAI Dropside Trucks (1999), HYUNDAI Mighty Cargo Truck (1994); KIA CERES Pick-up (1998)
**VEHICLES** - HYUNDAI Starex SVX (2001); MAZDA Pick-up (1997); MITSUBISHI STRADA 4 x 4 (1995), NISSAN 4 x 2 Pick-up (1995)
**MOTORPOOL SPAREPARTS** - A Range of Spare Parts for Various Motor Vehicles incl. Air Filters, Bearings, Fan Belts, Oil Filters, Hydraulic Hoses, Hydraulic Filters, etc
**GENERATORS** - YONG SHIN YS230 400KVA w/ CUMMINS Diesel Engine, DAEWOO PGV 250KVA w/ Diesel Engine DAEMYUNG DG 200 250KVA w/ CUMMINS Engine, (2) LEECHUN TGS-C 144 KVA w/ MITSUBISHI Engine, (2) LEECHUN 94KVA w/ DAEWOO Engine, (2) LEECHUN 37.5 KVA w/ ISUZU Engine, (2) LEECHUN 12.5KVA w/ DAEWOO Engine, (4) ROBIN 4.3KVA
**AIR COMPRESSORS** - ATLAS COPCO XA 350DD 740 CFM, ATLAS COPCO XA 175DD 365 CFM, INGERSOL-RAND XA 600DD, (2) AIRMAN, (2) PUMA
**MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT** - (2) Auto Pipe Beveling Machines, Bar Bending Machine, (2) Clam Shell Grabs, Gas Cutter, EBARA Plunger Pump, (4) REM Threading Machines
**CONTAINERS** - A Range of Modern Insulated Office & Accommodation Containers; (150+) Standard Storage Containers 40'/20'
**SCAFFOLDING** - A Large Qty. of Scaffolding incl. Scaffolding Pipes, Steel Forms, Frames, Catwalks, Shoring Jacks, Steel Planks, Clamps & Fixings, etc
**STRUCTURAL STEEL** - Qty. of H-Beams & I-Beams; Steel Pilings, Anchor Bolts, etc
**SURVEY INSTRUMENTS** - Asstd. Theodolites, Leveling Machines, Aluminum Tripods, etc
**WELDERS AND ELECTRODES** - (38) 500 Amp. Welding Machines, PANASONIC Welding Machine, KR560 Tig Welding Machines, A Large Qty. of Electrode Ovens, Welding Electrodes & Welding Wire
**PUMPS** - KYOWA Hydro Test Pumps; A Qty. of Submersible/Water Pumps, etc
**ELECTRIC & HAND TOOLS** - HITACHI Disc Grinders, HILTI Electric Drills, Pedestal Drill; Magnetic Drills, MAKITA Impact Wrenches, Circular Grinders, Large Qty. Grinding Discs; Chain Blocks, Adjustable Wrenches, Combination Wrenches, Hammers Pipe Benders, Saws, Pipe Wrenches, Shovels, Chisels, etc
**PIPE COUPLINGS & ELBOWS** - Asstd. G.I. Pipe; Flex Metal Conduit Pipe; RGS Pipe; Asstd. G.I. Couplings, G.I. Elbows; Flanges, Tees, Valves, PVC Pipe, etc
**ELECTRICAL MATERIALS** - A Large Qty. of Asstd. Electrical Equipment, Power Cable, Coaxial Cable, THHN Wire, PVC Cable, Aluminum Cable Trays, Lighting Materials, Portable Lights, Flouresecent Ballasts, Mercury Ballasts, Transformers, etc
**MATERIAL STOCKS** - Concrete Polishers; FOSROC Colpor, Concrete Blocks; Joint Filler, PVC Cement, Water Lay Flat Hose, White Cement
**PAINTS & LUBRICANTS** - A Range of Paints, Sealants & Lubricants, Acrylic Concrete Putty, AMERON DIMECOTE Liquid Hardener, DUTCHBOY, BOYSEN Paints, Primer, Pipe Line Coating, etc
**MISCELLANEOUS** - Satellite Communication System; A Qty. of Electric Motors; Oxygen/Acetylene Cutters, Cable Winding Machines, Hand Pallet Trucks, Portable Radios, Timber, Fire Extinguishers, Welding Masks, Safety Equipment, Metal Scraps
**AIR CONDITIONING** - A Large Range of CARRIER, LG, WESTINGHOUSE Split/Window Type Air Conditioners
**OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT** - A Range of Office Furniture incl. Desks, Tables, Executive Chairs, Office Chairs, Filing Cabinets, Copying Machine, MITA X18020, SHARP SF-540/SF-1025N Photocopiers, Qty. of CPU's, HP Deskjet Printers, Telefax Machines, PANASONIC; Typewriters, CD Writer 9200, Miscellaneous Office Equipment, etc
**HOUSEHOLD** - A Range of Household Furniture incl. Beds; Tables; Chairs, Kitchen Appliances, Stoves, Refrigerators; Washing Machines; Water Dispensers; Kitchen Utensils, etc

**AT: KM. 42, SORIANO HIGHWAY, BRGY. LAMBINGAN, TANZA, CAVITE, PHILIPPINES**
**ON: WEDNESDAY 29TH, THURSDAY 30TH, FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY 2003**
**& SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2003 - 10:30AM SHARP**
**ON VIEW: MONDAY 27TH & TUESDAY 28TH JANUARY 2003**
**FROM 9:00AM – 5:00PM AND MORNING OF SALE DAYS**
**REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: (PHP50,000) UPON REGISTRATION PER SALE DAY**

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E-mail: manila@henrybutcher.com

www.henrybutcher.com

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
BUREAU OF CUSTOMS
PORT OF MANILA
Customs District II-A
South Harbor, Manila

January 24, 2003

## NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 2601 and 2607 of the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines, there will be a "PUBLIC AUCTION SALE" (Open Bidding) of the hereunder listed various articles/goods to be conducted on **January 29, 2003** (Wednesday) (Registration shall start at 1:30 pm and ends at 2:00 pm & the auction sale shall start at 2:00 pm) at the Office of Auction & Cargo Disposal Division, Room No. 304, Customhouse Bldg., South Harbor, Port Area, Manila. Said goods/articles shall be available for public viewing on **January 28, 2003.**

For further inquiry, please contact the following telephone nos. 527-80-51 local 437 & 527-19-75.

ITEMS/DESCRIPTION

22 x 40' Containers Soup Base and Fruit Juice Mix P4,000,000.00

**Note: (Animal Feeds Only *"NOT TO BE USED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION"*)**

**CASH BOND REQUIRED: P20,000.00**

(Sgd.) **Atty. REYNALDO S. NICOLAS**
District Collector
Port of Manila

**IMPORTANT:**

Pursuant to Customs Administrative Order No. 3-94, approved on March 18, 1994, as implemented by CMO No. 12-94 dated April 07, 1994, a Registration Fee of Two Thousand (P2,000.00) Pesos is required to be eligible to participate in the auction sale. The District Collector reserved the right to reject any/all bid offer if deemed disadvantageous to the Government.

(PDI – Jan. 26, 2003)

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## BOOKKEEPER/ACCOUNTANT

- ➢ Female, not more than 30 years old
- ➢ With 2 years experience in actual bookkeeping
- ➢ Graduate of B.S. Commerce major in Accounting
- ➢ Computer Literate

Please bring your resumé with pic to:
**No. 9, 11th Jamboree St., Brgy. Sacred Heart, Diliman, Quezon City / Tel. No. 926-5988/4166697**
Look for Susan, Dehlia, Venice or Leni

---

**ROYAL CLASS TRAVEL & TOURS, INC.**

Urgently needs:

### 2 ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Male or Female, 22-35 years old; with 1-2 years Sales/Reservation experience in travel industry; willing to be assigned in Libis.

Interested applicants may apply in person at:
**1134 Dolmar Bldg., U.N. Avenue, Paco, Manila**

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**Wistron InfoComm (Philippines) Corporation**
#4 Rizal Highway corner Arm High Avenue
Subic Bay Industrial Park, Phase I Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2200
Telephone (63) 47-2527740 • Facsimile (63) 47 2526203

***OUR COMPANY IS IN NEED OF A HIGH CALIBER CANDIDATES WHO CAN FILL UP THIS POSITION***

### CSD MANAGER

***Qualifications:***

- Male / Less than 30 years old
- Preferably can speak Chinese fluently
- A graduate of Industrial Engineering and Management
- Must have a good communication skills
- Must have 3 years experience in Planning and Logistics
- Familiar with Material Control and Planning / Problem solving & analysis
- Familiar with computer operation both hard ware and soft ware

***Requirements:***

- Updated resumé with recent photo
- Diploma/Transcript of Records
- Birth Certificate
- Employment Certificate

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR RESUMÉ TO:
**MR. ROMMEL AQUINO**
Division Chief, Recruitment Division
SBMA-Labor Center
Rm. 138, Building 255, Barryman Road, Subic Bay Freeport Zone 2222

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## WORK ON CRUISE SHIP

Help you to get work on Cruise Ship vacancies available now, travel free visit, Australia, Europe, Canada, etc. Salary $US 2,000 to $US 6,000 a month. Free meals and accommodations to every occupation on Cruise Ship. Just send your name, address plus 4x stamps to:

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and we will send you free brochures.

*no placement fees collected, not agency*
*Beware of Illegal Recruiters.*

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## URGENT HIRING

### *MARKETING/SALES (MGR. ASST.)

*Basic Salary & Commission
*MALE/FEMALE - College Graduate
*W/ at least 2 years experience on Real Estate, Memorial Park or other related Tasks
*W/ existing Sales Network or be able to immediately organize & mobilize own sales network or implement company market/sales plans & programs
*To cover Novaliches, Caloocan, Q.C. & nearby areas
*Computer literate • MS Excel & Word

CONTACT: LEA REYES (951-2775)

**SERENITY Memorial Gardens**

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***Build Your Dream***
***With Me As Your partner***

**Call our consultant:**
**0917-536-3808 Ellen**
**0919-640-5567 Mel**
**0919-437-5668 Cora**
**0917-412-5765 Ferdie**

**Prestigious Network Mktg.System.**
**Serious Inquiries Only.**

32nd FL West Tower, Tektite, Ortigas

---

### A NATIONWIDE NETWORK IN SEARCH OF A VIDEO/DISC JOCK FOR ITS MORNING DRIVE SHOW

- Minimum 2 years experience w/ production, live hosting and/or on-air announcing work.

Please send application letter with detailed resumé, 2 x 2 photo (and voice tape or come in for voice audition) to:

**3/F Save-A-Lot Mall, 2284 P. Tamo Extension, Makati City**

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**PNOC PETROCHEMICAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**
(A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY)

11/F, BA Lepanto Building
8747 Paseo de Roxas
1227 Makati City, Philippines

Tel. No. 892-0293
892-0283
810-7161

Fax No. 892-0346

## RE-INVITATION TO REGISTER, APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The PNOC Petrochemical Development Corporation (PPDC) invites interested firms currently in good standing, to register, apply for eligibility and if subsequently found eligible, to bid for the ***Financial Advisory Services for the Polypropylene Project***, with a contract duration of sixty (60) calendar days, providing the following services:

- conduct and prepare a due diligence report on the polypropylene business and its financial affairs;
- advise and assist PNOC-PDC in establishing the financial viability of the polypropylene business under certain terms and conditions;
- advise and assist PNOC-PDC in determining its present and optimum level of participation in the polypropylene business; and,
- evaluate the conceptual and technical aspects of the ownership structure of the polypropylene business.

Interested firms must have provided financial advisory services in oil, gas or similar industries.

The Requirements for Eligibility and Short Listing may be secured from:
The BAC Secretariat
PNOC Petrochemical Development Corporation
11/F BA Lepanto Building
8747 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

Said documents shall be available at the above address during regular office hours, until January 31, 2003 (Friday), 5:00 p.m. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Pesos (P100.00) shall be required to cover the cost of forms.

All Eligibility and Short Listing requirements must be submitted on or before February 11, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. at the above address. The opening of eligibility documents shall follow soon after. Only parties who pass the eligibility check and short listing shall participate in the actual public bidding. Moreover, the quality-cost selection procedure shall be adopted.

All particulars relative to registration, eligibility, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of Executive Order No. 40 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

PPDC reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, if there is evidence of collusion between relevant public officers or employees of the agency or the BAC and any of the bidders, or among the bidders, or between bidders and third parties, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or cancel the bidding due to supervening events. PPDC also reserves the right to waive any required formality in the bids received, provided that such waiver does not refer to a major deviation in a bid or any requirement provided in the IRR of E.O. 40 pertaining to the substance of a bid.

Signed this 16th day of January, 2003 in Makati City.

(Sgd.) **VICTORIO MARIO A. DIMAGIBA**
*Chairman*
Bids and Awards Committee

PDI-January 18 & 26, 2003

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## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

**JOSE NOEL CARLOS Y CASTAÑO** HAS PENDING WARRANT OF ARREST IN CRIMINAL CASE NO. 02-2918 ISSUED BY RTC-NCR CITY OF MAKATI BRANCH 60 FOR ESTAFA.

ANY INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OF SAID **JOSE NOEL CARLOS Y CASTAÑO** SHALL BE REWARDED. PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH TEL. NOS. 671-6669 OR 671-9946.

(PDI - Jan. 26, 2003)

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## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT **EDWIN A. OCAMPO**, OF SAN MATIAS, STA. RITA, PAMPANGA, OUR FORMER ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE, IS NO LONGER CONNECTED WITH US AS OF **JANUARY 21, 2003.**

ANY TRANSACTION ENTERED INTO BY THE SAID **EDWIN A. OCAMPO** ON OUR BEHALF AS OF SAID DATE SHALL NOT BE HONORED BY US.

**BMG SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS**
**SOLAHART PHILIPPINES**
**GOPEZ CORPORATION**

(PDI - Jan. 26, 2003)

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## ADMIN/PERSONNEL STAFF

Candidates must be graduates of BS Psychology or Behavioral Science. Female, at least 22 years old. With a minimum of one year work experience in the field of **Compensation and Benefits Administration**. Has extensive knowledge in registration, benefits, loan and contribution procedures in different government agencies (SSS, Pag-IBIG, Philhealth). Has acumen in payroll procedures. Must be keen, assertive, diligent and result-oriented person. Analytic, has initiative, can work with minimum supervision and willing to work overtime.

## MIS STAFF

Male or Female, not more than 28 years old. Graduate of BSCS or BSCE from reputable school with good scholastic record and communication skills. Must have an intensive knowledge in Visual FoxPro, Visual Basic, MS-Access, SQL LAN under Novell, Windows 2000 or NT, UNIX, Configuration and connection. Knowledge in Data Mapping and PC trouble shooting is an advantage. Team player and willing to work overtime.

Interested parties may apply in person and are required to bring their resumé with 2x2 colored picture and Transcript of Record on the following interview schedules:

## MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES

Male or Female, 21-28 years old with pleasing personality. Graduate of any 4-year course. With experience in detailing to doctors and contact with medical community.

Jan. 27, 2003 - Feb. 8, 2003
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**ADMIN/PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT**
**#8 Feria Rd., Commonwealth Ave., Diliman, Q.C.**
**Tel. #: 932-7555 Loc 104 or 05**
**Fax: 932-7551**

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
**SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills
City of Mandaluyong, Metro Manila

## INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Securities and Exchange Commission invites bonafide bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **JANITORIAL SERVICES**, SEC Main Office, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City.

The SEC needs 32 Janitors/Haulers/Utility Workers (1 Supervisor, 14 Janitors, 15 Haulers, 1 Carpenter/Plumber, 1 Electrician). Approved Budget Cost is **P3,933,753.84**.

Bid documents may be secured at the General Services Division, 4th floor, SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City upon payment of non-refundable fee of **P500.00**. For further inquiries please call at Tel. No. 727-3320.

**Pre-Bid Conference will be held on:**

Date : January 30, 2003
Time : 2:00 P.M.
Place : MRD Conference Room, 6th floor, SEC Building

Bidders are not allowed to bid on both security and janitorial services. Eligible Bidders shall submit their bids in four (4) separate sealed envelopes, the first containing the Eligibility Requirement, second the Technical Proposal, third the Financial Proposal and fourth the Bid Security. All documents originating from other government agencies should be **Authenticated/Certified True Copies.**

The envelopes must be sealed, properly labeled, signed or stamped across the envelope flap.

**Deadline for submission of bids will be on:**

Date : February 13, 2003
Time : 5:00 PM
Place : General Services Division, 4th floor, SEC Building
To Whom : Mr. Norlan M. De las Alas, BAC Secretariat

Bid submitted after said date/time will no longer be accepted.

Bid Security in the form of Cash, Cashier's/Manager's Check, Bank guarantee or Surety bond shall accompany the sealed bids. Otherwise, the bid is automatically disqualified.

All particulars relative to Eligibility, Bid Bond, Pre-Bid Conference, Bid Evaluation, Post qualification and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of Executive Order No. 40 Series of 2001, and its implementing Rules and Regulations.

The SEC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any required formalities therein and to award the contract to the bidder whose proposals as evaluated is most advantageous to the Commission.

SEC also assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of the bids, nor does it guarantee that any award will be made.

(Sgd.) **JOSE AQUINO**
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI-Jan. 19 & 26, 2003)

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Want to buy **HIGH QUALITY**
But affordable medicines?

St. Raphael the Archangel™
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Mefenamic 500 mg capsule - P 85.00

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
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PLDT

# INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Accreditation of company who offers the following services:

- Supply of Fabrics for Office Uniform
- Provision of the Sewing Services of Office Uniform
- Provision of both Supply of Fabrics and Sewing of Office Uniform (*Hecho-Derecho*)

**The Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT Co.)** is inviting qualified companies to participate in the accreditation process for the Company's Panels of Office Uniform Fabric Suppliers and Office Uniform Sewers or *Hecho-Derecho* Service Providers. Companies who will pass the pre-qualification/accreditation requirements shall be invited to participate in the bidding process that shall be conducted within this year.

Minimum basic requirements shall be:

- Three (3) years experience in the provision of fabrics or sewing services or hecho-derecho services for office uniforms
- Registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as a corporation
- At least Php 3.0 Million paid-up capital

The accreditation forms are available at the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company, 2/F MOC Bldg., Reliance corner Sheridan Sts. Mandaluyong City. Interested parties may secure the necessary accreditation requirements from 27-31 January 2003 during regular business hours.

The accomplished accreditation requirements including the required supporting documents shall be submitted in a sealed envelope not later than 2:00 PM of February 7, 2003 addressed to:

**Ma. Luisa V. Alvendia**
Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company
Purchasing Center
Reliance Corner Sheridan St.
Mandaluyong City

For any inquiries, please call Ms. Rowena Almario at telephone number (632) 633-6856 and e-mail address rsalmario@pldt.com.ph or purchasing-epldt@pldt.com.ph.

(Accredited suppliers/contractors and applicants currently undergoing accreditation process need not apply)

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# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The *Caraballo and Southern Cordillera Agricultural Development Programme* is an integrated development project of the Department of Agriculture jointly funded by the Government of the Philippines and the European Union.

CASCADE

GININTUANG MASAGANANG ANI

## Invitation to Organization/Institution to submit Letter of Interest on COMPUTER TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE

Expert services from interested organizations/institutions are needed to assist the LGUs develop their skills in the application of various computer softwares (in word processing, spreadsheet, database) and customized programs (e.g. loan application, municipal agricultural database, GMA reporting, etc.); Assist LGU troubleshoot operational problems in the application of customized softwares/programs, and; Provide assistance for regular maintenance and troubleshooting of computer hardwares and peripherals provided by CASCADE, to the MLGUs of Nueva Vizcaya. Benguet and Carrangian, Nueva Ecija.

The organization/institution should be locally-based, possess expertise and relevant experience in providing hands-on training on the operation and maintenance of computers and the use of various types of computer software and has the capability to field several computer trainors at the same time to the different municipalities covered by CASCADE. Familiarity, experience, and ability to work collaboratively with the LGUs, an advantage.

Letters of interest together with the track record of the organization/institution should be submitted not later than **February 04, 2003.** Full terms of reference (TOR) and letter of invitation to submit proposals will be issued to short-listed candidates on or before **February 10, 2003**, the successful contractor will be required to provide twelve months (12) of services to undertake aforementioned activities.

Interested parties should send their letter of intent addressed to:

**The Project Co-Directors**
DA-CASCADE
Bonfal West, 3700 Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
Tel. Nos. (078) 321-2605 & 321-4128
Telefax No. (078) 805-3611
E-mail: cascade_erp@yahoo.co.uk
Re: Computer Technical Support and Maintenance

(PDI--Jan. 26, 2003)

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**POEA 24-HR HOTLINES**

**722-1144 • 722-1155**

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
**SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills
City of Mandaluyong, Metro Manila

# INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Securities and Exchange Commission invites bonafide bidders to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **SECURITY SERVICES**, SEC Main Office, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City.

The SEC needs 22 Security Guards to secure entire office and parking area. Approved Budget Cost is **P5,235,574.08.**

Bid documents may be secured at the General Services Division, 4th floor, SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City upon payment of non-refundable fee of **P500.00**. For further inquiries please call at Tel No. 727-3320.

Pre-Bid conference will be held on:

Date : January 29, 2003
Time : 10:00 a.m.
Place : MRD Conference Room, 6th floor, SEC Building

**Bidders are not allowed to bid on both security and janitorial services**. Eligible Bidders shall submit their bids in four (4) separate sealed envelopes, **the first** containing the Eligibility Requirement, **second** the Technical Proposal, **third** the Financial Proposal and **fourth** the Bid Security. All documents originating from other government agencies should be **Authenticated/Certified True Copies**.

The envelopes must be sealed, properly labeled, signed or stamped across the envelope flap.

Deadline for submission of bids will be on:

Date : February 13, 2003
Time : 5:00 p.m.
Place : General Services Division, 4th floor, SEC Building
To Whom : Mr. Norlan M. De las Alas, BAC Secretariat

Bid submitted after said date/time will no longer be accepted.

Bid Security in the form of Cash, Cashier's/Manager's Check, Bank guarantee or Surety bond shall accompany the sealed bids. Otherwise, the bid is automatically disqualified.

All particular relative to Eligibility, Bid Bond, Pre-Bid Conference, Bid Evaluation, Post qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the provisions of Executive Order No. 40 Series of 2001, and its implementing Rules and Regulations.

The SEC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any required formalities therein and to award the contract to the bidder whose proposals as evaluated is most advantageous to the Commission.

SEC also assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of the bids, nor does it guarantee that any award will be made.

(Sgd.) **JOSE AQUINO**
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--Jan. 19 & 26, 2003)

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
**PROCUREMENT SERVICE**
INTER-AGENCY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

# INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **PROCUREMENT SERVICE (PS)** invites G-EPS registered suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MIMEOGRAPH AND COPY PAPER for the PS STOCKS**.

The approved budget for this contract is **P15,500,000.00**.

All interested parties are invited to attend the **Pre-Bid Conference** that will be held on **February 11, 2003, 1:30 AM** at the **PS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, PS Complex, Cristobal St., Paco, Manila.**

The bid documents shall be available at the **PS-PURCHASING DIVISION** starting **January 27, 2003** upon payment of non-refundable fee of **Five Hundred Pesos (Php500.00).**

The bidders shall submit their duly accomplished eligibility requirements technical and financial proposals in three separate sealed envelopes at the bid box located at the Office of the Head of the IABAC Secretariat at the above mentioned address. Deadline for submission and opening of bids shall be on **February 25, 2003 at 1:30 PM.**

For more information, please call the **PS-Purchasing Division at telephone nos. 563-94-02** or **563-93-74.**

**PS reserves the right to waive any formality in the responses to the eligibility requirements and to this invitation. PS further reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.**

(Sgd.) EDUARDO P. OPIDA
Chairman, IABAC

(PDI – Jan. 26 & Feb. 2, 2003)

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Republic of the Philippines
**PROCUREMENT SERVICE**
INTER-AGENCY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

# INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Integrated Community Health Services Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for the **Supply, Delivery and Installation of Hospital Referral Radio System** for the Province of Palawan.
2. **The Procurement Service**, acting for the Department of Health, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply, delivery and installation of radio equipment briefly described as follows:

| Description | Unit | Quantity |
|---|---|---|
| VHF Radio Repeater Station with Cavity Filters | sets | 3 |
| VHF Base Radio Station | sets | 33 |
| Power Supply/Charger | units | 36 |
| 12 V 24 Ah back up battery | units | 39 |
| Solar Panel, 75 Watts | sets | 15 |
| VHF Mobile Radio w/ whip antenna | sets | 40 |
| Hand held radio with charger and extra battery | sets | 267 |
| Solar Panel, 5 watts | sets | 152 |
| HF SSB Transceiver with DATACOM | sets | 3 |
| Radio Modem | units | 3 |
| 12 V 40 Ah Back Up Battery | units | 3 |
| HF Broadband Antenna | sets | 3 |
| Power Supply/Charger | units | 3 |
| Desktop PC | units | 3 |
| 4 Element Vari-Loop Antenna | sets | 33 |
| 8 Element Vari-Loop Antenna | sets | 6 |
| 2 Element Vari-Loop Antenna | sets | 163 |
| 8-ft Antenna pole | sets | 11 |
| 120 ft Coxial Cable with fittings | sets | 39 |
| 20-ft PT mast with 50 ft coax cable for BHS | sets | 163 |
| Construction of Repeater Station Dog House | lot | 2 |
| VHF Radio Installation and commissioning | lots | 242 |
| Licensing VHF Radios | lots | 346 |

The detailed list and quantity of items are included in the Bid Documents.

3. The schedule of bid activities are as follows:

| Activity | Date | Time |
|---|---|---|
| Issuance of Bid Documents | January 27 to<br>March 17, 2003 | 8:00 A.M.-<br>5:00 P.M. |
| Deadline for Issuance of Bid Documents | March 17, 2003 | 5:00 P.M. |
| Pre-Bid Conference | February 11, 2003 | 9:30 A.M. |
| Deadline for Submission of Bids | March 18, 2003 | 9:30 A.M. |
| Opening of Bids | March 18, 2003 | 9:31 A.M. |

4. International Shopping will be conducted in accordance with ADB's procurement guidelines and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries.
5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Document at the address given below:

**Procurement Service**
**Department of Budget and Management**
**RR Road, Cristobal Street**
**Paco, Manila**
**Philippines**

6. The Bidding Document, in the English language, may be purchased by Interested Bidders at the address above or on submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00) in cash or ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (US$100.00) plus mailing fee of US$50 in the form of bank draft.** Documents for overseas delivery shall be sent by surface mail or courier. No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery.
7. Bids must be delivered to the above address in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders on or before the deadline of submission of bids. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of not less than two Percent (2%) of the Total Bid Price. Late Bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below:

**Conference Room of the Procurement Service**
**Department of Budget and Management**
**RR Road, Cristobal Street**
**Paco, Manila**
**Philippines**

8. Prior to the Bid Opening, a Pre-Bid Conference will be held on the scheduled date at the address above.
9. The Procurement Service or the Department of Health will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.
10. In the comparison of Bids, ADB's Domestic Preference scheme will be applied in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Instruction to Bidders.
11. The Department of Health and Procurement Service reserve the right to reject any or all bids without disclosing any reason, to waive any minor defects or infirmities therein and to accept such bid as may be considered advantageous to the DOH and to local health units.

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO P. OPIDA**
*Chairman, IABAC*

(PDI – Jan. 26 & Feb. 2, 2003)

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Republic of the Philippines
**PROCUREMENT SERVICE**
INTER-AGENCY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

# INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Integrated Community Health Services Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for the **Supply, Delivery and Installation of Hospital's Telephony Telecommunications Equipment** for the Province of Palawan.
2. The **Procurement Service**, acting for the **Department of Health,** now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply, delivery and installation of telephony equipment briefly described as follows:

| Description | Unit | Quantity |
|---|---|---|
| Communication Server | units | 12 |
| Back Up Battery 12V 18 Ah | units | 48 |
| Call Accounting System w/ PC | units | 10 |
| Call Accounting System Back up UPS | units | 10 |
| Dot Matrix Printer, 80 columns | units | 12 |
| Auto Attendant w/ Voice Mail System | unit | 1 |
| Auto Attendant Back Up UPS | unit | 1 |
| Solar Panel with Controller 180 watts | set | 1 |
| Digital Telephone w/ QWERTY keyboard for local programming | units | 10 |
| Digital Telephone | units | 43 |
| Analog Telephone | units | 196 |
| Modem | units | 31 |
| Rural Telephony Radio | sets | 42 |
| Power Supply Charger | units | 42 |
| 12 V 24 Ah Back Up Battery | units | 42 |
| Solar Panel with Controller, 75 watts | sets | 16 |
| 7 element Yagi Antenna | sets | 42 |
| Coxial Cable with connectors, 120 ft. | sets | 42 |
| 80 ft. Antenna pole | sets | 27 |
| Structured Cable House Wiring | units | 12 |
| Outside Wiring | lots | 4 |
| Communication Server Installation | lots | 12 |
| Rural Telephony Installation | lots | 42 |
| Licensing Rural Telephony Radio | lots | 42 |

3. The schedule of bid activities are as follows:

| Activity | Date | Time |
|---|---|---|
|  | March 17, 2003 | 5:00 PM |
| Deadline for Issuance of Bid Documents | March 17, 2003 | 5:00 PM |
| Pre-Bid Conference | February 11, 2003 | 9:30 AM |
| Deadline for Submission of Bids | March 18, 2003 | 1:30 PM |
| Opening of Bids | March 18, 2003 | 1:31 PM |

4. International Shopping will be conducted in accordance with ADB's procurement guidelines and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries.
5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Document at the address given below:

**Procurement Service**
**Department of Budget and Management**
**RR Road, Cristobal Street**
**Paco, Manila**
**Philippines**

6. The Bidding Document, in the English language, may be purchased by interested Bidders at the address above or on submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00) in cash or ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (US$100.00) plus mailing fee of US$50 in the form of bank draft. Documents for overseas delivery shall be sent by surface mail or courier. No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery.
7. Bids must be delivered to the above address in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders on or before the deadline of submission of bids. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of not less than two Percent (2%) of the Total Bid Price. Late Bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below:

**Conference Room of the Procurement Service**
**Department of Budget and Management**
**RR Road, Cristobal Street**
**Paco, Manila**
**Philippines**

8. Prior to the Bid Opening, a Pre-Bid Conference will be held on the scheduled date at the address above.
9. The Procurement Service or the Department of Health will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.
10. In the comparison of Bids, ADB's Domestic Preference scheme will be applied in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Instruction to Bidders.
11. The Department of Health and Procurement Service reserve the right to reject any or all bids without disclosing any reason, to waive any minor defects or infirmities therein and to accept such bid as may be considered advantageous to the DOH and to local health units.

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO P. OPIDA**
*Chairman, IABAC*

(PDI - Jan. 26 & Feb. 2, 2003)

PLDT

# INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Accreditation of company who offers the following services:

- Supply of Fabrics for Office Uniform
- Provision of the Sewing Services of Office Uniform
- Provision of both Supply of Fabrics and Sewing of Office Uniform (*Hecho-Derecho*)

**The Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT Co.)** is inviting qualified companies to participate in the accreditation process for the Company's Panels of Office Uniform Fabric Suppliers and Office Uniform Sewers or *Hecho-Derecho* Service Providers. Companies who will pass the pre-qualification/accreditation requirements shall be invited to participate in the bidding process that shall be conducted within this year.

Minimum basic requirements shall be:

- Three (3) years experience in the provision of fabrics or sewing services or hecho-derecho services for office uniforms
- Registration with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) as a corporation
- At least Php 3.0 Million paid-up capital

The accreditation forms are available at the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company, 2/F MOC Bldg., Reliance corner Sheridan Sts. Mandaluyong City. Interested parties may secure the necessary accreditation requirements from 27-31 January 2003 during regular business hours.

The accomplished accreditation requirements including the required supporting documents shall be submitted in a sealed envelope not later than 2:00 PM of February 7, 2003 addressed to:

**Ma. Luisa V. Alvendia**
Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company
Purchasing Center
Reliance Corner Sheridan St.
Mandaluyong City

For any inquiries, please call Ms. Rowena Almario at telephone number (632) 633-6856 and e-mail address rsalmario@pldt.com.ph or purchasing-epldt@pldt.com.ph.

(Accredited suppliers/contractors and applicants currently undergoing accreditation process need not apply)

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CASCADE

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**The *Caraballo and Southern Cordillera Agricultural Development Programme* is an integrated development project of the Department of Agriculture jointly funded by the Government of the Philippines and the European Union.**

GININTUANG MASAGANANG ANI

## Invitation to Organization/Institution to submit Letter of Interest on COMPUTER TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE

Expert services from interested organizations/institutions are needed to assist the LGUs develop their skills in the application of various computer softwares (in word processing, spreadsheet, database) and customized programs (e.g. loan application, municipal agricultural database, GMA reporting, etc.); Assist LGU troubleshoot operational problems in the application of customized softwares/programs, and; Provide assistance for regular maintenance and troubleshooting of computer hardwares and peripherals provided by CASCADE, to the MLGUs of Nueva Vizcaya. Benguet and Carranglan, Nueva Ecija.

The organization/institution should be locally-based, possess expertise and relevant experience in providing hands-on training on the operation and maintenance of computers and the use of various types of computer software and has the capability to field several computer trainors at the same time to the different municipalities covered by CASCADE. Familiarity, experience, and ability to work collaboratively with the LGUs, an advantage.

Letters of interest together with the track record of the organization/institution should be submitted not later than **February 04, 2003**. Full terms of reference (TOR) and letter of invitation to submit proposals will be issued to short-listed candidates on or before **February 10, 2003**, the successful contractor will be required to provide twelve months (12) of services to undertake aforementioned activities.

Interested parties should send their letter of intent addressed to:

**The Project Co-Directors**
DA-CASCADE
Bonfal West, 3700 Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
Tel. Nos. (078) 321-2605 & 321-4128
Telefax No. (078) 805-3611
E-mail: cascade_erp@yahoo.co.uk
Re: Computer Technical Support and Maintenance

(PDI--Jan. 26, 2003)

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# POEA 24-HR HOTLINES

# 722-1144 • 722-1155

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
**SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION**
SEC Building, EDSA, Greenhills
City of Mandaluyong, Metro Manila

# INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

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Pre-Bid conference will be held on:

Date : January 29, 2003
Time : 10:00 a.m.
Place : MRD Conference Room, 6th floor, SEC Building

**Bidders are not allowed to bid on both security and janitorial services.** Eligible Bidders shall submit their bids in four (4) separate sealed envelopes, **the first** containing the Eligibility Requirement, **second** the Technical Proposal, **third** the Financial Proposal and **fourth** the Bid Security. All documents originating from other government agencies should be **Authenticated/Certified True Copies.**

The envelopes must be sealed, properly labeled, signed or stamped across the envelope flap.

Deadline for submission of bids will be on:

Date : February 13, 2003
Time : 5:00 p.m.
Place : General Services Division, 4th floor, SEC Building
To Whom : Mr. Norlan M. De las Alas, BAC Secretariat

Bid submitted after said date/time will no longer be accepted.

Bid Security in the form of Cash, Cashier's/Manager's Check, Bank guarantee or Surety bond shall accompany the sealed bids. Otherwise, the bid is automatically disqualified.

All particular relative to Eligibility, Bid Bond, Pre-Bid Conference, Bid Evaluation, Post qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the provisions of Executive Order No. 40 Series of 2001, and its implementing Rules and Regulations.

The SEC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any required formalities therein and to award the contract to the bidder whose proposals as evaluated is most advantageous to the Commission.

SEC also assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of the bids, nor does it guarantee that any award will be made.

(Sgd.) **JOSE AQUINO**
Chairman
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--Jan. 19 & 26, 2003)

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
**PROCUREMENT SERVICE**
INTER-AGENCY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

# INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **PROCUREMENT SERVICE (PS)** invites G-EPS registered suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for the **SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MIMEOGRAPH AND COPY PAPER for the PS STOCKS.**

The approved budget for this contract is **P15,500,000.00.**

All interested parties are invited to attend the **Pre-Bid Conference** that will be held **on February 11, 2003, 1:30 AM at the PS Conference Room, 2nd Floor, PS Complex, Cristobal St., Paco, Manila.**

The bid documents shall be available at the **PS-PURCHASING DIVISION** starting **January 27, 2003** upon payment of non-refundable fee of **Five Hundred Pesos (Php500.00).**

The bidders shall submit their duly accomplished eligibility requirements technical and financial proposals in three separate sealed envelopes at the bid box located at the Office of the Head of the IABAC Secretariat at the above mentioned address. Deadline for submission and opening of bids shall be on **February 25, 2003 at 1:30 PM.**

For more information, please call the **PS-Purchasing Division at telephone nos. 563-94-02** or **563-93-74.**

**PS reserves the right to waive any formality in the responses to the eligibility requirements and to this invitation. PS further reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.**

(Sgd.) EDUARDO P. OPIDA
Chairman, IABAC

(PDI – Jan. 26 & Feb. 2, 2003)

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Republic of the Philippines
PROCUREMENT SERVICE
INTER-AGENCY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

# INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Integrated Community Health Services Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for the **Supply, Delivery and Installation of Hospital Referral Radio System** for the Province of Palawan.
2. **The Procurement Service**, acting for the Department of Health, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply, delivery and installation of radio equipment briefly described as follows:

| Description | Unit | Quantity |
|---|---|---|
| VHF Radio Repeater Station with Cavity Filters | sets | 3 |
| VHF Base Radio Station | sets | 33 |
| Power Supply/Charger | units | 36 |
| 12 V 24 Ah back up battery | units | 39 |
| Solar Panel, 75 Watts | sets | 15 |
| VHF Mobile Radio w/ whip antenna | sets | 40 |
| Hand held radio with charger and extra battery | sets | 267 |
| Solar Panel, 5 watts | sets | 152 |
| HF SSB Transceiver with DATACOM | sets | 3 |
| Radio Modem | units | 3 |
| 12 V 40 Ah Back Up Battery | units | 3 |
| HF Broadband Antenna | sets | 3 |
| Power Supply/Charger | units | 3 |
| Desktop PC | units | 3 |
| 4 Element Vari-Loop Antenna | sets | 33 |
| 8 Element Vari-Loop Antenna | sets | 6 |
| 2 Element Vari-Loop Antenna | sets | 163 |
| 8-ft Antenna pole | sets | 11 |
| 120 ft Coxial Cable with fittings | sets | 39 |
| 20-ft PT mast with 50 ft coax cable for BHS | sets | 163 |
| Construction of Repeater Station Dog House | lot | 2 |
| VHF Radio Installation and commissioning | lots | 242 |
| Licensing VHF Radios | lots | 346 |

The detailed list and quantity of items are included in the Bid Documents.

3. The schedule of bid activities are as follows:

| Activity | Date | Time |
|---|---|---|
| Issuance of Bid Documents | January 27 to<br>March 17, 2003 | 8:00 A.M.-<br>5:00 P.M. |
| Deadline for Issuance of Bid Documents | March 17, 2003 | 5:00 P.M. |
| Pre-Bid Conference | February 11, 2003 | 9:30 A.M. |
| Deadline for Submission of Bids | March 18, 2003 | 9:30 A.M. |
| Opening of Bids | March 18, 2003 | 9:31 A.M. |

4. International Shopping will be conducted in accordance with ADB's procurement guidelines and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries.
5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Document at the address given below:

   **Procurement Service**
   **Department of Budget and Management**
   **RR Road, Cristobal Street**
   **Paco, Manila**
   **Philippines**

6. The Bidding Document, in the English language, may be purchased by interested Bidders at the address above or on submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00) in cash or ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (US$100.00) plus mailing fee of US$50 in the form of bank draft.** Documents for overseas delivery shall be sent by surface mail or courier. No liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery.
7. Bids must be delivered to the above address in accordance with the Instruction to Bidders on or before the deadline of submission of bids. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of not less than two Percent (2%) of the Total Bid Price. Late Bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below:

   **Conference Room of the Procurement Service**
   **Department of Budget and Management**
   **RR Road, Cristobal Street**
   **Paco, Manila**
   **Philippines**

8. Prior to the Bid Opening, a Pre-Bid Conference will be held on the scheduled date at the address above.
9. The Procurement Service or the Department of Health will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.
10. In the comparison of Bids, ADB's Domestic Preference scheme will be applied in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Instruction to Bidders.
11. The Department of Health and Procurement Service reserve the right to reject any or all bids without disclosing any reason, to waive any minor defects or infirmities therein and to accept such bid as may be considered advantageous to the DOH and to local health units.

(Sgd.) **EDUARDO P. OPIDA**
*Chairman, IABAC*

(PDI – Jan. 26 & Feb. 2, 2003)

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Republic of the Philippines
**PROCUREMENT SERVICE**
**INTER-AGENCY BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE**

# INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Integrated Community Health Services Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for the **Supply, Delivery and Installation of Hospital's Telephony Telecommunications Equipment** for the Province of Palawan.
2. The **Procurement Service**, acting for the **Department of Health**, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply, delivery and installation of telephony equipment briefly described as follows:

| Description | Unit | Quantity |
|---|---|---|
| Communication Server | units | 12 |
| Back Up Battery 12V 18 Ah | units | 48 |
| Call Accounting System w/ PC | units | 10 |
| Call Accounting System Back up UPS | units | 10 |
| Dot Matrix Printer, 80 columns | units | 12 |
| Auto Attendant w/ Voice Mail System | unit | 1 |
| Auto Attendant Back Up UPS | unit | 1 |
| Solar Panel with Controller 180 watts | set | 1 |
| Digital Telephone w/ QWERTY keyboard for local programming | units | 10 |
| Digital Telephone | units | 43 |
| Analog Telephone | units | 196 |
| Modem | units | 31 |
| Rural Telephony Radio | sets | 42 |
| Power Supply Charger | units | 42 |
| 12 V 24 Ah Back Up Battery | units | 42 |
| Solar Panel with Controller, 75 watts | sets | 16 |
| 7 element Yagi Antenna | sets | 42 |
| Coxial Cable with connectors, 120 ft. | sets | 42 |
| 80 ft. Antenna pole | sets | 27 |
| Structured Cable House Wiring | units | 12 |
| Outside Wiring | lots | 4 |
| Communication Server Installation | lots | 12 |
| Rural Telephony Installation | lots | 42 |
| Licensing Rural Telephony Radio | lots | 42 |

3. The schedule of bid activities are as follows:

| Activity | Date | Time |
|---|---|---|
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| Deadline for Issuance of Bid Documents | March 17, 2003 | 5:00 PM |
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(Sgd.) **EDUARDO P. OPIDA**
*Chairman, IABAC*

(PDI - Jan. 26 & Feb. 2, 2003)

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*"The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and splendid day of the Lord".*
Acts 2:20

## *Message of Thanks*

*For visiting us and being with us in our time of sorrows...*
*For praying with us and for us...*
*For the perpetual Masses offered through Mass cards...*
*For the beautiful flowers that provide comfort...*
*For joining us in our nightly vigils and Masses...*
*For attending to the personal needs of our family...*
*For your material help and donations to Mama's favorite charities...*
*For attending the funeral rites...*
*For all that you have done...*

**Our sincerest gratitude.**

From the family of the late

## PURIFICACION TAN SIY

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## DR. JOSE R. ALBA

**(Retired Colonel – PA)**

*Peacefully joined his Creator, and his wife* ***RAMONA*** *on January 21, 2003 at the age of 88.*

His loving children **MILLIE** and **JUN RILLO**, **MARIE** and **PAT CRUZ**, **JOSE JR.** and **TITA**, **BOYET** and **BABY**, **REY** and **DISI**; grandchildren, relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel F of the Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati.

Interment will be announced later.

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**Cast your care upon the Lord who will give you support God will never allow the righteous to stumble". Psalm 55:23**

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# Benita Nuñez Maronilla-Ortiz

## MD, FPAOO

UST Medicine Class '52

**Widow of the late Manuel Matias Maronilla, Jr.**

*died in the Grace of our Lord at the Southwest Herman Memorial Hospital, Houston, Texas on January 18, 2003, Saturday, 3:00 p.m. at the age of 77.*

She is survived by her husband **Dr. Ricardo T. Ortiz**; children & sons-/ daughter-in-law: **Ma. Juliana (Jaye) Maronilla**, **Ma. Bernardita (Maita)** & **Andy Reyes**, **Christine** & **Camilo Dumlao**, **Cecille Maronilla**, **Nolette** & **Rey Tan Boringot**, **Manuel Vincent (Noel) Maronilla III**, **John Anthony** & **Lina Maronilla**; grandchildren: **Christina Maronilla**; **Andrea**, **Bernard Jose** & **Kamyl Reyes**; **Pamela**, **Nicholas** & **Gabriel Dumlao**; **Lawrence**, **Micaella**, **Lorraine**, **Leeandro**, **Meynardo** & **Matt Ryan Boringot**; **Lianne** & **Patricia Maronilla**; sisters & brothers-in-law: **Lolly** & **Lading Firmacion**, **Luz** & **Flor Dungo**, **Polly Nery**; sister-in-law **Luz Nuñez**; uncle **Jose** & wife **Belen Macalincag**; & aunt **Leonor Melicor**.

*Her remains will lie in state from January 26, 2003, Sunday, at the Santuario de San Jose Chapel, Greenhills. Interment will be on Wednesday, January 29, 2003 at The Heritage Park, Fort Bonifacio, M-Mla. after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.*

*The family requests the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.*

---

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---

**We, the family of the late**

## LEVY GARA REBAMONTAN

who peacefully joined her Creator on January 3, 2003

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude and sincerest appreciation to all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers, mass cards, letters of sympathy, spent precious moments with us, and expressed in many other ways their love, concern and support during our time of sorrow.

**We design OBITUARIES for free.**

---

## *Ricardo "Pal" D. Soto, Sr.*

of Bacolor, Pampanga

December 23, 1935-January 11, 2003

His wife **Iluminada De Guzman Soto**; children **Mylene**, **Ricardo Jr.** and **Jessica**, **Irmina** and **Nathaniel**, **Sian**, **Dorothy** and **Patrice**; brothers **Jose Jr.** (†) and **Modesto** (†); sisters **Dorotea** (†), **Thelma**, **Amelia** and **Carolina**; grandchildren **Red**, **KL**, **Blue**, **Seth**, **Chin-Chin**, **Kiko**, and **Cheska**; nephews, nieces, in-laws and other relatives grieve for his passing and request readers to offer Masses and prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His family wishes to thank all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers, condoled with and comforted them in their hour of bereavement.

His cremated remains will be interred on Saturday, March 1, 2003 after a 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Lubao Memorial Park in San Nicolas I, Lubao, Pampanga. For more details, please get in touch with Mylene Soto, cell phone no. 09179766117.

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VIP-M/F-09192714842 ANJO

**REFLEXOLOGY**

ANGIE • 0919-4931766

BLUE PALM 713-6553

Edward 7289285 09193365411

FEELS GOOD 4127758

H-H-MS MALE 7314018

Reflex 0920-2485682

RFLX 09192395660/8891997

Wizard Massage 4213197

Jason 3rd Massage 4216876

**TRAVEL & TOURS**

Visa Bank Cer 09205039590

**TUTORIAL LESSONS**

• ADEPT TUTORS @ 8833671

• LIGHT 5301315 5268216 •

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09176972240 (02)7210720
thesisbureau@yahoo.com

**WEDDING PLANNER**

Emcee 4283149, 0919-8498131

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THESIS WRITER
Jenny • Cell # 0920-4039665

### HOUSEHOLD

**HOUSEHOLD JOBS**

IDEAL MAIDS YAYA 732-6750

Avble Driver Maid Yaya Cook Oldsitter 9322142

Good Service Maids w/ BI-NBI #8227269

Good-Maids-Yaya-Cook7570579

Good-Maids-Yaya-Boy 7570579

Help Agency 532-1947 • 532-8376

MAID YAYA COOK 4040873

Maid/Yaya/Cook/Drver7225119

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### PERSONAL

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### PERSONAL

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### PERSONAL

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### HOUSEHOLD

**HOUSEHOLD JOBS**

Provincial / City Maids Boy 7328405 / 7429329

Recruiters-Provincial Maid 7328405/7429329/4107388

ANGEL'S HANDS MAIDS W/NBI&BI 8834270 4213253

TRUSTED QUALITY MAIDS W/NBI & BI 421-3828

We have maid nurse mwife homecare 4128513 3664375

**LIPAT BAHAY**

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

A-1 Lipat Bahay 4313975

LBAHAY 7113540

LBahay7433225

LIPAT BAHAY 535-2064

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### COMML/RESDL

Birmingham

SUNRISE
San Mateo, Rizal
50m² up
nr Quezon City
2BR 1TB w/carport
P950T - up

HOMES
M.L. Quezon Ext.
Antipolo City
Two-storey Town house
P1.05M - up

PLACE
Brookside Hills,
Cainta, Rizal
Hse & Lot, 2 sty Twnhse
2BR, 2TB with carport
P1.5M - up

PANORAMA HILLS
Nr SSS, Antipolo
Lots Overlooking
Metro Manila
Only 20% DP Bal. 5 yrs.

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9410701
Classic Homes Realty
947-6867
Aes Realty
645-1996
Solid Estate Marketing
532-2443

**MAKATI**

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**PASIG**

418sqm 5Dr 2Sty Apt. frnt College T-6414589, 09175372340

6.4Has Pasig 10 mins. to Ortigas T-6414589, 09175372340

### COMML/RESDL

At Home in Paradise
- along Ortigas Avenue Ext.
- only a few minutes drive from Ortigas & Greenhills
- amenities include tennis, badminton & basketball courts, swimming pool, & clubhouse with game room, restaurant, bar & videoke room.

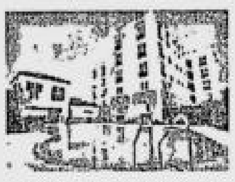
as low as
P12.5T/month
2 BR Condo

6561882 / 6561706

DMCI HOMES

### COMML/RESDL

Hampstead Gardens



An Oasis at the Heart of the Metropolis
- along V. Mapa Extension, Sta. Mesa Mla.
- very near Don Bosco and SM Centerpoint
- mid-rise building with elevator
- with multi-purpose clubhouse, swimming pool & playground

as low as
P15T/month
2 BR Condo

7167044 / 7167039

DMCI HOMES

LIMITED OFFER ONLY !!!

PRIME LOTS at Island Park

- ✓ a Luxury Residential Community along Governor's Drive in Cavite
- ✓ 45 mins. from *Makati* and 35 mins. to *Tagaytay*
- ✓ centrally-located between the financial districts of *Makati/Alabang* and the golf courses and exclusive clubs in *Tagaytay*
- ✓ Saint Paul College already operating within the subdivision

for as low as
P4,000/sqm.

- ✓ Limited Phase 1 and Phase 2 lots available
- ✓ Lot sizes ranging from 254 sqm. to 964 sqm.
- ✓ Easy Financing Terms
- ✓ For details call Buddy, Sandy, or Mylenne at tel. nos. 898-7547, 898-7584, and 898-7535 (Monday to Friday, office hours only)

### HOUSE & LOT

**KALOOCAN**

CAMARIN Cal City LA240m² FA104m² 2Bdrms 1T&B P1.2M Vic/Gie 8903461 loc. 27

**LAS PINAS**

58 Sqm 2 Stry 2Bdrm Vville Thomes 1 Mwalk LPinas 0919-6056680

**MAKATI**

5BR3TB3CG 2Sty LA240 FA170 7.5M 8161266 / 09178323820

SPANISH BUNGALOW CONDO LIKE LAYOUT COMPLETE FACILITY MAKATI SAN MIGUEL VILL BESIDE BEL AIR II P7M NET TEL. 7725305

**MANILA**

Income Property Nr UST 250m² Call 0917-4149890

LEON GUINTO
NEAR QUIRINO AVE.
Bnew/3Sty/3BR/3TB/grge
P3.230M 8903461 loc 34

**MARIKINA**

Gnhts. new4br 2Mneg 9487112

### HOUSE & LOT

**MARIKINA**

450m² Industrial Valley Res /Buss. 0917-4149898

**PARANAQUE**

INA EXEC. VALEY 15BR 5TB 3CG Semi Furnsd 09179718449/4.9M

RUSH 1.3M 3BR 2TB Nr. Astra/SM Bleu. 09179718449/RFO w/ phone

**PASIG**

LEXINGTON EXEC. VILLAGE
Model House LA 168 FA 110m² 2BR + Maid 3T&B 0917-5308656

RENT OR SALE
#5 Phoenix Subd Nick 671-7062

**QUEZON CITY**

Diliman 653m² 7.2M 4752630

Hse & Lot 4 Sale 60 m to Min. Ave near Orino Hway LA-497 sm² 7M neg 0391494 / 0918-9195018 Yoly

L280m² APO ST SMH QC L2000m² Baler St. 929-0376

Maliksi St. Duplex 455m² 929-4937 • 0917-5287456

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### COMML/RESDL

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### COMML/RESDL

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### COMML/RESDL

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**CAGAYAN DE ORO**
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*DL: (08822)726-012*

**DAVAO**
*Venue: UBP Recto Branch*
*Trunkline : (082)226-400 loc. 2652,2611, 2619, 5217 & 5218*

Call : ROSELLE at (02) 893-8614 / (02)893-8620.
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**RESIDENTIAL**

**CEBU**

1 H&L/Lot 41 Blk. 4 Siegfredo, Ma Luisa Estate Park Subd Ph VIII, Banilad, Cebu City
*LA-220 / FA-132*
***Min Bid - P1,531,700***

2 H&L\Lots 20 & 6-D Paseo Annette Ma Est Park Subd, Banilad Cebu / *TLA-1,158*
***Min Bid - P6,442,100***

3 Lot/Lot 2807-K Kixia St, Northtown Homes Subd Cabancalan, Mandaue
*LA-1,139*
***Min Bid - P5,703,316***

4 Res Lots w/ Bldg/Ofc/
WITHDRAWN
Tipolo, Mandaue City
*TLA-572*
***Min Bid - P3,466,300***

5 Res'l Condo/Unit 1-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Cmpd, Punta Engano, Pt Lapu Lapu City* / *FA-60*
***Min Bid - P2,829,000***

6 Res'l Condo/Unit 3-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu*
*FA-173 30*
***Min Bid - P9,114,000***

7 Res'l Condo/Unit 7-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu*
*FA-177.75*
***Min Bid - P9,544,000***

8 Res'l Condo/Unit 4-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu*
*FA-173.30*
***Min Bid - P9,712,000***

9 Res'l Condo/Unit 2-B Villa Nautica Condo Coral Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu*
*FA-179.30*
***Min Bid - P10,037,000***

10 Res'l Condo/Unit 1-3 A/B Eastpt Villa I Condo Coral Pt Cmpd, Engano, Lapu Lapu*
*FA-343 50*
***Min Bid - P22,071,000***

11 H&L\ Lot 328-0 Locata Rd, Looc, Lapu-Lapu
*LA - 353 / FA - 141*
***Min Bid - P1,284,900***
** Includes Club Share*

**BACOLOD CITY**

12 H&L / L 1 #3 Sn Francisco cor Los Angeles Sts Las Palmas Subd, Taculing, Bacolod City
*LA-346*
***Min Bid - P766,300***

13 H&L/Lots 1&7 B 10 Taculing cor S Horseshoe Rds
Pleasantville Subd, Taculing, Bacolod City
*TLA-976 / FA- 415*
***Min Bid - P4,730,250***

**BACOLOD CITY**

14 Lot / L 23 B 50 Sta Clara Subd, Bac City (w/squatters)
*LA-1,000*
***Min Bid - P1,020,000***

15 Agri Lot/Lots 1434-D-1-A & 1434-D-1-B Binicuil, Kabankalan City, Neg. Occidental
*TLA - 99,999*
***Min Bid - P1,700,000***

**DAVAO CITY**

16 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3-D Nat'l Hi-way Int Bud-bud, Davao City
*LA - 20,388.96*
***Min Bid - P3,200,000***

17 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3 -A Nat'l Hi-way Int. Bud-bud, Davao City
*LA - 20,111.22*
***Min Bid - P4,050,000***

18 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3 -C Nat'l Hi-way Int. Bud-bud, Davao City
*LA - 22,586.35*
***Min Bid - P4,080,000***

19 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3 -B Nat'l Hi-way Int. Bud-bud, Davao City
*LA - 22,788.15*
***Min Bid - P4,350,000***

**TAGUM CITY**

20 Res'l Lot / Lot 6, 2nd Ave. cor Marvina Pob, Brgy. Magugpo, Dvo Del Norte (w/ occs)
*LA - 1,580*
***Min Bid - P1,000,000***

**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**

21 Lot/ Lot 15, Brgy. Balulang / *LA 9,302*
***Min Bid - P1,820,000***

22 Agri Lot /L#3070, Bo. Canitoan, Cagayan
*LA - 50,076*
***Min Bid - P2,350,000***

**ILIGAN CITY**

23 Lot / Lot # 964-V Bgy. Tubod / *LA 5,162*
***Min Bid - P1,625,000***

**BUTUAN CITY**

24 Vacant Lot / Lot 2, Bo. Bading / *LA 5,960*
***Min Bid - P610,000***

**OZAMIS CITY**

25 Lot / Lot # 793-B Gleen Motor Cmpd Bernad St., Bo. Carangan
*LA - 2,331*
***Min Bid - P1,400,000***

**BOHOL**

26 Lot / Lot 1521-B-9-B Int Calceta St, Cogon Tagbilaran / *LA - 400*
***Min Bid - P92,000***

**CAPIZ**

27 Agri/Fishpond/Lot 2768 -A Tico, Panay, Capiz
*LA-100,017.*
***Min Bid - P1,495,000***

**COMMERCIAL**

**CEBU**

28 Ind Lot w/ Whse/Ofc Bldg/Lot 1718-B Casili-Cubacub Rd Casili (Tawason), Mandaue
*LA - 4,000*
***Min Bid - P10,381,900***

29 Comm'l/Ind'l Lot w/ Bldg/Ofc/ Lot 75-F AS Fortuna St., Banilad, Mandaue City
*LA-2,960 / TFA-1,468*
***Min Bid - P32,041,000***

30 Lot / L 1-5, 7-10 Blk 4 & 6 - B Salvador St, Labangon, Cebu City
*TLA-3,344/TFA-3,299*
***Min Bid - P20,567,000***

31 Lot/L3 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / *LA-1,100*
***Min Bid - P12,320,000***

32 Lot/L4 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / *LA-1,100*
***Min Bid - P12,320,000***

33 Lot/L5 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / *LA-1,100*
***Min Bid - P12,320,000***

34 Lot/L6 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / *LA-1,100*
***Min Bid - P12,320,000***

35 Lot/L1 Kaoshiung cor F Urot Sts Cebu Port Area, Cebu / *LA-1,415*
***Min Bid - P17,830,000***

36 Lot/L2 Cabahug cor F Urot Sts Cebu Port Area, Cebu / *LA-1,415*
***Min Bid - P17,830,000***

37 Lot/L7 Cabahug cor Osmeña Blvd Cebu Port Area / *LA-1,416*
***Min Bid - P18,118,000***

38 Comm'l/Ind'l Lot w/ Bldg/Ofc/Lots 4759, 4761, 4768 & 8279-A Cebu S Road, Basak, Pardo / *LA - 6,210*
***Min Bid - P36,952,000***

39 Lots 7624-C-1-B & 7624-C-3-Colon St, Pahina Central, Sambag, Cebu City
*LA-660 70/TFA-2,797*
***Min Bid - P53,203,500***

**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**

40 Lots w/ Bldg/ Lots 1138-B & 1148-A-2, J Pacana, Puntod, Port Area / *TLA - 587*
***Min Bid - P4,000,000***

**DAVAO CITY**

41 Lot/ L519-A-2-A-5-D, JP Laurel Ave, Dvo City
*LA - 600*
***Min Bid - P8,300,000***

42 Lot/ L519-A-2-A-6-A-2-B JP Laurel Ave, Dvo City / *LA - 537*
***Min Bid - P5,630,000***

JUST BRING P20,000 (CASH OR MC) SHOW MONEY TO QUALIFY TO BID FOR EACH PROPERTY.

FIXED 12% INTEREST PA FOR FIRST 3 YEARS, 15% INTEREST FOR NEXT 12 YEARS

Unionbank may, at anytime, withdraw any of the properties listed above prior to auction. All properties for sale are on an "AS IS WHERE IS" basis.

### HOUSE & LOT

### HOUSE & LOT

Brittany

LA POSADA Fun City
Sucat, Paranaque

LA MAREA
San Pedro, Laguna

COTTONWOOD HEIGHTS
Antipolo

Portofino
Alabang

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917-9069254

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*RESERVE TODAY!*

**QUEZON CITY**

LOYOLA HGTS QC XAVIERVILLE SUBD 6BR 5TB SD 860sqm LAWN GARAGE 4334910

RUSH! Greenfields 1, NOVA LA200m² FA100m² 3br 2tb Garage, Terrace, H²O Pump P2M Neg 928-0767 • 0917-8398313

Rush Sale! 3sty Semiconcrete Insured 4 P1M & Lot 267m² P3M only T-9137916

**QUEZON CITY**

RUSH SALE furnished 3BR 3TB w/ solar heater T9369285 cell 09196166868

SALE #18 Adonis Acropolis Subdivision • Jim 636-7974

**RIZAL**

120sqm P1.8M neg location: Taytay Rizal pls call 6606775 look for Noreen

### HOUSE & LOT

**RIZAL**

345m² Nayong Silangan P1.8 3br Cell. No. 0917-4149898

Bentley Park Subd LA108 FA100 3br2tb • 09178174547

**SAN JUAN**

E. Ghills 4br 28M 412-1825

★ Greenhills West ★
infront Xavier HS. 8br/7tb 9cg Res. / Comm'l w/ Good Business Bawi Bayad! Tel. 722-1832

**OTHER AREAS**

Baguio H&L 2br 24Hrs H²O 1.6M DBO 0916-3128459

**CAVITE**

LA MEDITERRANEA 2Stry 3Bdrm 1T&B LA110m² FA80m² P1.7M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

sdetach P700T LA96m² FA36m² 7139232/09185617004

**LAGUNA**

ADELINA 1 3Bdrms LA183m² P1.7M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

St. Francis 7 Binan LA-155 FA-140 P1.85M TESS: 049-2412641 0916-5636049 Neg

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### COMML/RESDL

**VARIED AREAS**

FOR RENT OR SALE
As of January 15, 2003

TWIN TOWER
Makati – 271 sq.m.
3 BR 2 tel lines 2 parking

FOR SALE

ANTEL PLATINUM TOWER
Makati – 97.38 sq.m.
2 BR 1 parking

ANTEL SEAVIEW – Tower C
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City
3 BR 147.08 sq.m. 2 parking

ORCHARD FAIRWAY LOT
With Membership
705 sq.m. Dasmariñas, Cavite

FARM LOT – Tagaytay
Area – 10,000 sq.m.

Contact or Call
Tel. No. : 551-66-90
Cell No. : (0917) 817-7158
(0919) 231-1983

### CONDO/TWNHSE

**LAS PINAS**

2BR T-HOUSE T5221875

**MAKATI**

Ayala 1.8M 30m² 744-3465

AYALA WEST CONDO P1.8M-P6.9M 36stry 15units avbl luxury but cheaper, Bnew. Hurry! move in now! 0916-7022867

CONDO UNITS 4 SALE! Near Makati CDB & D' Fort Around 15 mins Drive 4 only P25K/mo. RFO Call Ivy Cell No.# 0918-9384927

East Forbes Park Condo essensa, 290sqm P20M Bnew ultra-luxury 2units available move-in now! 0916-7022867

For Sale Brand New Studio Type Res. Cityland Condo Pasong Tamo 1.3M 826-9109 or 826-8913

Rockwell 248-0859

URDANETA APARTMENTS
U-15D 3BR 245SQM P13MM with INCOME P90T
AYALA PACIFIC PLAZA
U-15C 3BR 285SQM P19MM
AYALA TWIN TOWERS
PENTHOUSE 320 SQM
3BR P21MM w/INCOME 75T
U-15D 3BR 271 SQM
P16MM MIRAMAR 817-1591

**MANILA**

NR LA SALLE TAFT
Twnhse/3stry/3br/3tb/grge P3.230M 8903461 loc 34

**MANDALUYONG**

PINNACLE U-14A 298 SQM 3BR P14MM 817-1589/91/94

**PARANAQUE**

3BR 3T&B 2.5M 820-4520

**PASIG**

2br Crisanta Tower Near VVerde CClub 0917-4149898

ORTIGAS CTR 1BR FA46M² 1T&B Balcony S/Pool Gym Rush Sale 0916-5117293

**QUEZON CITY**

3br 158m² St. Ignatius P4M Neg. Text 0917-4149898

Nr St Lukes Hosp
4BR 2car grg very nice see to appreciate Call: Nena Divino 4260531 ; 4266266 09175335635

Resale Eastwood City Studio 1-3BR 0917-4149898

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### COMML/RESDL

**VARIED AREAS**

### CONDO/TWNHSE

**QUEZON CITY**

50% Discount from Jan. to March only
Few units left for as Low as 8T-10T/mo

PYP MANSION II
Prime location, very near E.D.S.A., Araneta Center, MRT, & Transpo terminals
LIVE IN CONVENIENCE & STYLE w/ Elegant Lobby
Studio 1,2&3 Bedroom Units
Penthouses & Commercial Units and Ample Parking
*EASY TERMS THRU Bank Financing, GSIS, Pag-ibig & Lease 2 own scheme*
Tel: 7232498, 7237811
78 I. SANTOS DIAZ ST. CUBAO, QC

Rush!Fernandina 88 100sqm 4.8MNeg 3br 2tb 0916-7069277

New Manila 3BR 2car P5.5M Scout Area 4BR 2car P9.8M 7153544 / (0918)5072866

UNION SQ ONE FA80m² P1.64M 1BR 2T&B Vic 8903461 loc. 27

Xavierville Condo 36m² 1.5M Nr. Ateneo Edra 681-9712 weekdays

**OTHER AREAS**

JESTRA HEIGHTS
TAGAYTAY
COUNTRY VILLAS
SERVICED VACATION RESIDENCES
P 1.6 Million 15 yrs to pay
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT
11/F V. Madrigal Bldg.
6793 Ayala Ave.
Call at Tel. Nos. 813-3192
813-3193; 813-3690
James-635-0128; 633-6191
633-5118; 634-4294
633-6187

**VARIED AREAS**

Anchor Bay, Roxas Boulevard
Natural Sea Breeze Dramatic Sunset Site: "Future Mall of Asia" 54.5 sqm with free 1 parking P4.3M 1BR.
California Gardens Square
near Rustan Shangrila
P25,000 reservation
NO DOWN P2.1M P17K M/A
2BR 2 level 8-903-903
/ 0917-8-903-903

### LOT

**KALOOCAN**

RAINBOW VILLAGE 5 LA216m² P3,703/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 25

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### LOT

**Occidental Mindoro**
100has property in Lawaan, Abra de Ilog, Occ Mindoro nr Puerto Galera w/ beach-front suitable 4 resort/ranch/ agri 4 only
**P250,000 per hectare**
Call Nick 921-5718

#### LAS PINAS

METROCOR Back of SM 254sqm 4800/m² 800-4771

#### MARIKINA

Near Roosevelt College 286sqm T9330092

Parang Marikina 750sqm 9134135 / 09205572045

#### MUNTINLUPA

PLEASANT VILL w/proposed rd direct to FILINVEST ALABANG 477m² P3,960/m² SOUTH GREENHEIGHTS VILL 300m² P3,833/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 25/27

#### PARANAQUE

600MULTINATL 09179707168

MARIMA 7120229/70

#### PASIG

229 Mgahan @6,500 180 De Castro @6,500 Pasig 911-1170

Baguio Lot Crystal Cave 1000 sqm 4M Neg. 826-9423

GREENPARK 211m² 645-8757

GREENWOODS 308m² 645-8757

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

#### QUEZON CITY

350m² Sacred Heart 5min away frm SM Fview & Rbinson Call 4128551 Bert

Comm'l lot 808m²-23T/m² 7153544 / (0918)5072866

#### RIZAL

427sqm Lot Rodriguez Rizal P1200/sqm Negotiable Call Ernie 2720462

540sm along Felix Ave. Direct 7801594 Tess

Filinvest East 410sm /5800m² Near Clubhse Call 912-1442

Greenland CAINTA 258sqm / 2800/m² Call 627-0185

Vill. East 272 & 204m² 4,200/m² Neg. Binangonan • 532-112-8

#### OTHER AREAS

Tagaytay Lot 80-120sqm P4,288-6,432.00/mo. 2727814

TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA240sqm P3,125/sqm Vic 8903461 Loc. 27

#### OTHER PROVINCIAL

✤IBA, ZAMBALES 10has 40M 500meters nr beach 09192221766

✤IBA, ZAMBALES 10has 45M nr hway titled 0919-2221766

✤ZAMBALES 18has 10M 100 mango trees 0919-2221766

Farm Lots Lipa City P. Bata 1.5 & 4.2 Hs. 0917-5287456

Richmont South Calamba 80 sqm Neopolitan P4 300sqm 09175387859

#### BATANGAS

TAAL Blngs 200m from Diversion Rd LA6794m² P186/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

#### CAVITE

EAGLERIDGE GOLF VILLAGE LA 436m² Pay D/P Assume Balance 0917-5308656

Filinvest Dasmarinas 119m² 9294937 • 0917-5267456

**TRECE MARTIREZ**
Nr Capitolyo Approved Residential Commercial 809-1079 (0919)6890267

#### VARIED AREAS

11027m² Antipolo P1,800/m² 2000m² Pto.Proncesa P2,000/m² 1000m² Angat Bulacan P80/m² 913-4053 / 421-8241 / 813-6159

#### PROVINCIAL

TAGAYTAY COUNTRY HOMES 180m² P3,500/m² Vic Gigie 8903461 loc. 27/25

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### OFFICE SPACE

LEGASPI SUITES 127 SQM P6MM W/ INCOME P55T CHATHAM HOUSE 148-720sqm P45/SQM 817-1589/91/94

St. Lukes Med Ctr front Tower Cathedral Hts pls text 09178966924 / 7509114-15

### BUSINESS SPACE

700m² Res or Industry W. Capitol 0917-4149898

### MEMORIAL LOT

HEAVENS GATE P250T 645-8757

### AGRICULTURAL LANDS

PLARIDEL,BULACAN 2HA OR 1501SQM W/MANGO TREES BENG 931-4466 or 912-4573

### FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

✤ZAMBALES 17has 1600mango trees 26M DBO 0919-2221766

TAAL Blngs 200m from Diversion Rd LA6794m² P186/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

### RESORT

Calaca, Bats 1ha. w/ 2New Resort Haus, 1Caretaker Haus Strong Flowing Water w/ Tel. Line Sale P35M Call 361-9953 / 364-6696

### WANTED TO BUY

JACK HAMMER & PAVEMENT BREAKER ASIS OR RUNNING 60 to 90 POUNDS 5230283

*Vacant Lot in Cubao 240m² area *Vacant Lot in Teachers Village 400m² area Pls Call 913-1737 / 437-0769

## REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

### COMMERCIAL

#### QUEZON CITY

Alng Cmowelt Rd.9218376

### HOUSE

#### ALABANG

**FOR RENT**
82 Tanauan Ayala Alab. Lot. 475/Flr. 700sqm.
• Call MYRNA 893-1043 •

#### MAKATI

3BR w/ Garden, Mds Rm San Miguel Vill, Makati 8903403

#### PARANAQUE

Bung 3BR 2TB Drvrs/Mds Qtr 777-9188 • 0917-9811513

#### PASIG

BUNG 80sqm 9160535 / 7284275

#### RIZAL

Masinag, Bung Unfurn 3br 2tb Maids Qtr 777-9188 • 0917-9811513

#### SAN JUAN

Near Greenhills 4BR 4TB Maids Rm Garage 40T 929-6671 or 0919-4404020

### CONDO/TWNHSE

#### KALOOCAN

**NEW 1BR•2BR COM'L**
CLINIC•OFFICE•P6.5Tup
NO ASSOCIATION DUES•NO RENT increase for 2yrs. • with tel & cable lines #162 P. Jacinto cor. #39 Biglang Awa Caloocan • Call Zony • 323-0175 Tintin • 527-7616

#### MAKATI

4BR Condo For Lease Rizal Twr, Rockwell Makati Call 8982416 or email:plam1a@yahoo.com

BNEW MKTI CONDO-11K
OXFORD SUITES FF
ELEGANT W/ NICE VIEW
10MINS.FR.ROCKWELL
NR BUENDIA & MKTI AVE.
759-4091*752-2580
0917-7940078

BNEW MKTI RES CONDO
WEST AYALA
Gil Puyat Ave. Cor. Ayala
37-140 sqm 11K-60K
759-2335•752-2580

## REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

### OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

**CB Richard Ellis**
Burgundy Corporate Tower
252 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Newest office development in Makati
Strategically located and cut office units
Sizes range from 47.00 to 127.00 sqm.
Call 7522580/8487388/ 8841363
E-mail: dsip@cbre.com.ph

#### MAKATI

**BRAND NEW STUDIO**
very clean w/security guard impressive lobby w/ elevator P7.5T no association dues no rent increase for 2 years 1672 Dian St Mkti nr Buendia - Call Rose 8449823 • 0916-6803715

CLASSICA TOWER-123BR
Salcedo Village, Makati
43-157m² 18-70K,UF/FF
759-2335*752-2580*848-7388

For Rent Pacific Plaza
DFort Higher Flr • 826-9423

#### MANILA

PLAZA DILAO PACO
Newly Ren 3flr 4BR 2TB 7ceiling fans Press water Call 942-0654/0919-731-0614

Studio F.Furn w/Pkg 817-8788 842-2002, Cell 0917-4218935

#### MANDALUYONG

Wack² Hgts 3br w/mdsrm1pkg semifurn nice Int. Designed Call Efren / Gigi 723-8698

#### PASAY

Condominium 4 Rent
3 bedrooms w/ restroom maid's room w/ toilet along Roxas Blvd. Contact Rickey Bahia 09189187473 8064253/ Dina 09173600359

#### PASIG

For Rent or Sale Renaissance 3000 Ortigas • 826-9423

#### QUEZON CITY

Thse Pagasa 5BR Open Grge 0917-7956595 931-4418 Rina

*16T/MO 3BR 3T&B #31 Masbate St. West Avenue QC Pls Call 9131737 / 4370769

#### SAN JUAN

1 STUDIO 2BR W/ GARAGE CALL 722-73-74

G'HILLS STU P11T FF929-9835

#### BAGUIO

Condo Unit w/3Large Brms 1Md's Rm • 0916-3486481

### APARTMENT

#### MAKATI

2BR Up/Dwn 1BT gar/CMPO 7765-6 JB Roxas St. Mkl. Ideal4Famly 8963175 Egay

#### MANILA

Apt 7841746/6682108

NEW 2B/R MLA 11TH 7405825

New U/D 2BR Mla 11T 7405825

#### PASIG

2BR 1TB Tel Garage Kapitolyo Pasig T-9281152

P8T SCREEND QUIET 2STRY
3 ADULT NO CHILD T-6354244
4 SN CLEMENTE KAPITOLYO
1BLK frm SHAW 1KM frm EDSA

#### QUEZON CITY

2BR 1TB 107 Harvard Cubao 9126520 P7500/month

#5 D.Tuazon cor Ilustre P7T 9207101•0919-3652573

BNEW STUDIO TYPE APT 4 COUPLES SFDM QC 3730208

Brand new studio type apt Project 2 QC 4342604 0919-2876641/0919-2876620

Cubao 2stry 2BR 1Bath P6.5T Call 439-8519 Vicky

### WANTED TO LEASE

INTERESTED TO LEASE MIN. AREA OF 1,500 m² fenced property w/or w/o warehouse - send offers to M. Ramos Telefax 8730933

## REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

### WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

53 GOV PASCUAL WHSE 3610652

### ROOM & BOARD

LDY Near Wel Rtd. 1.8T 7405825

### BEDSPACE

DORM IN A CONDO-4K
BURGUNDY WESTBAY TWR
V.CRUZ NR LASALLE/ST.SCHO
ALSO AVAIL. 4 RENT:
1,2,3 BR/COML UNITS
752-2580/759-4802
0917-8370184

Male Bedspace P1800/mo. near PSBA & Ateneo M-F 10am-3pm Call 982-8897

M/F Pasay 5500254 Robert

### BUSINESS RENTAL

524 EDSA KALOOKAN 3610652

Resd'l / Bus Bo. Kapitolyo 70m² 631-9771 • 634-1212

### LOAN & MORTGAGE

2% W/O TAKING CAR 3677523/24

FINANCING-EASY FAST VERY PRIVATE CONVENIENT H/L Business Personal Gigie/Ernie 8903461 loc. 25/23

### LOT FOR LEASE

1000m² up along WS Rd SSHWAY, Cupang Muntinlupa garage for truck VCheap P25/sqm Pinky 6352762 • 0917 4287841

### OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

Compshp/clnic/ofc 7225119

**FOR RENT**
Makati Office/Warehouse
• Call MYRNA 893-1043 •

### WANTED TO BUY

INVESTMENT BANKING FIRM (London Investment) Needs Credit Card Processing Co., Banks, Real Estate, TV/Cable, Telephone Co. info@litonline.net 001-619-2969821

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

### HOUSE & LOT

Ayala Alabang Nette 8093888

### CONDO/TWHSE/ FOR SALE/RENT

Mktl Condo Sale/Rent Crown Tower de la Costa 2BR 2TB 150Sqm Md Rm TB 1 Pkg New 2TB Cabinets LEO 09175286515 RUSH

Roxas Blvd Area,Paranaque City For as low as P10,000.00 Monthly. We also have Daily,Weekly,Yearly Contact MIRIAM 09202152066

## TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

### CARS

#### BMW

BMW'96 320i 680T 1st own AT-WelKept 8152568; 8181805

#### FORD

'01 FORD LYNX GSI M/T
Price Negotiable
Myrna 876-3106

02Xpdtion silvr 4260607

#### HONDA

'00 HONDA CIVIC VTEC
FULL MAINTENANCE
09178151591 MR. PARK

#### MAZDA

For Sale 96 Miata/575T 8269109 or 8268913

#### MERCEDES

87MBnz 260SE 126B 4260607

**M Benz Van MB100**
Model97 • Tel.# 726-6065

MB100 7415897 / 6437397

#### MITSUBISHI

Rush '96LncrEL 178T 4752630

## TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

### BUSES/TRUCKS

**FOR SALE – as is where is**
16 units – 40 Ftr. USED
CONTAINER VANS
**Php 30,000.00 each, Negotiable**
Look for: Ms. Dodie Maruquez
Tel. No. (02) 359-80-17
Cellphone No. (0917) 873-62-98

#### MITSUBISHI

'00 Lancer GLX A/T 1st owner 370T neg Call 2402545 ; 09178428226

91 MITS LANCER EXECUTIVE
OWNED A/T RED P140T
CALL ROBBIE
711-8080/731-5587

#### NISSAN

89 Maxima 9474440 Ted

'90California 0917-8921687

Nissan Terrano 2002 Model Orig. Paint Nice Sounds New Mags N Tires Low Mlg. 750T • (0917)529-3863 •

#### VOLVO

'95 VOLVO 850 GLT M/T
Price Negotiable
Myrna 876-3106

#### OTHER CAR BRANDS

Land Cruiser Pajero Surf Trooper Hi-Town Ace MU Safari Delica etc. waranty 9120647 09178342020 Glen

SERVICE VEHICLES L200, NISSAN, CERES, HI-LUX, L300FB, SUPREMO, BIDA, OWNER, LCRUISER, ELFS, ISU-DTs, KW-TMs & var. Equit. & Mach 725-0492 • 0920-4059420

### BUSES/TRUCKS

Isuzu Elf Double Sidings 4BC2 220T Call 9124658

## TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

### CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

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NEW MODEL ALL BRANDS
SELFDRIVE OR WITH DRIVER
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CAR VANS 410-0495

HI-ACE L300 4561218 / 9296250

L300 T7411356

MARIAN CARS BRIDAL VANS CSTER 8957247/8969956

MB100 Starex9483535

P800/L3 9136710/4333682

REVO w/driver 9272821

TOYCO TRANS-UDRIVE OR W/ DRIVER CAR/VAN RENTALS 8006595

URVAN MB CAR 9370271

### CAR LOAN

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3677523/24

1.5 % EasyCarLoan 4000166 -67

1.5% FAST CAR LOAN 6560140

1.5% FAST CAR LOAN 7262780

2% w/o Taking Car 8870490/85

2% w/o Taking Car 8966633

2% w/o Taking Car 7228942/43

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081-82

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

PAY-OFF BANK BAL. 712-7988

## GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

### BILLIARDS

BILLIARDS P33/36/38T Bnew A1 Qlty 801-4494/802-0566

## GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

### WANTED TO BUY

**WE BUY GOLD**
**HIGHEST PRICE**
**CALL: 8390004 8390060**

### HEAVY EQUIPMENT

Japan 50Gal Stainless Steel Jacketed kettle with stand Call 920-1152 Bing

### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT
ELITE PIANO CENTER
Almost New:TERMS-7213124

### PETS

DACHSND Pups 4.5T2596936

Dog Trainer 09192050952

DOG TRAINER 4528681

Dog Training VCDs P200each 4135809 / 09197959939

Family / Property Protection GSD 3mo • 0917-8394392

Labrador m / black 10T by Phil Champ 0917-7140884

Longhaired Guinea Pigs
Call 527-7616

PUGS WRINKLED 3725231

WORKING LINE GSDs 4SALE 09175374830 8753551 OFF SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY

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5633742 0917-8473744

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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### MALE

COMPANY DRIVER TEL#8970381 / 08 Ester/Joan

Flower Arranger, Agricultural Engr., Boat Driver, Autocad Operator •843-2596•

In Hse Lawyer on Ret w/ Off. Fax Res 633 9063. Prev app need not resp.

### FEMALE

BEAUTY CONSULTANT 527-1690

BOOKKEEPER
ACCOUNTING CLERK
SECRETARY & OFFICE CLERK
Female Single College Grad. BioData, Transcript of Record Raymundo Pawnshop Cubao Office Hour 7263336 7242047

Domestic Helper, Personal Secretary, Nanny •843-2596•

**★SECRETARY★**
GRADUATE 4YR COMPUTER COURSE SINGLE 20-25 YRS 817-5511 hdrglobal@edsamail.com.ph

**PHARMACIST**
urgent Board passer single 22-30yrs old bring resume call Salve 7274403 / 7269110

Receptionists 09198886167

SECRETARY 7212428 & 2458

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giathai@ksc15.th.com www.giathailand.com

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**MAKATI Supermart ALABANG**
---OPENING---
**CASHIERS**
- Female, 18 - 25 years old, Minimum height 5'2", Single
- College graduate or at least in 2nd year level, Good in arithmetic

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:
- Honest and trustworthy, NBI Clearance, ID Photo.
- Good health & morals, Personable.
- Bring accountability (Honorable release & Clearance certificate) form from last employer.
- High School Grad. English Speaking, Disciplined, Willing to work long hours.
- Living in Muntinlupa, Las Piñas, Parañaque, Laguna preferred.

APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY PERSONALLY WITH YOUR BIO DATA, SSS AND PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE AT OUR PERSONNEL OFFICE AT GATE NO. 3 THRU RECEIVING GATE AT THEATER DRIVE.
Contact: Mancar Buhay/Tristan Bagusa
ALABANG SUPERMARKET CORP.
Theater Drive corner Commerce Ave., Alabang Town Center
Alabang, Muntinlupa (807 2209)
SUPERMARKET

### MALE/FEMALE

ARCHITECT CADD / Renderer Resume at oygenml@yahoo

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL CENTERS Needs: DOCTOR, NURSES, Lic. CAREGIVERS, Send Resume to: hq@BNBTV.com or Fax : (619) 296-4532

Cook 6, Yaya 4, H. Girl 3,/ M'wife Nurse Laba 8510250

FREE Care Giver Seminar 5614990 5638009

★Ofc Staff 18/45 w/w/o exp★ Start asap Call 4752637 Direct hiring look for Sheryl

HRD STF 09205366330 ERIC

HRDSTAFF 09164591864 MARY OFC CLERK 09187912174 GAYLA

HRDSTF 0920-5483568 Rosal

KIDDO WORLD
is in need of
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
promising career ahead
18 to 40 yrs. old
graduate of any course
willing to do sales
2525900 / 2531578 MONA

Medical Clinic's established in U.S.A. opening throughout Philippines needs English speaking Expat salesman. No experience necessary in medical industry but must be strong in English and one call closer type. $2,000.00 U.S.D. per month plus incentives. Fax resume to Mr. Melato at 895-2373

•M/F MKTG ASSISTANT Submit Biodata, Transcript to: Rm505 State Center Bldg Ortigas Ave. Mand City

OFC PERSN'L 09192535623 GLENDA

OFC STAFF 09197907035 MS JK

OFCSTAF EYAH 09207440296

Office Staff Can Start ASAP! •Ms. Maui (0917)8948071•

**PHARMACIST**
1650 Quezon Ave. cor. Bohol Ave. HiTop Supermart near ABS-CBN Look for Ate Beth

PHARMACIST 4359238 Nimfa

Sales Executive- Coll. grad 7573844 to 46 - Elony

SALES SUPERVISORS 9101800

TEACHER ENGLISH SCIENCE MATH MKTI/GHILLS 7270817

URGENT JOB! Big Pay 30T Seminar PHILAM call BOB 4050105 09196961900

**Urgent Ofc Staf/Personel**
18-45yo w/wo exp Start ASAP 912-1480 Ms. Gonzales

Veterinarian 4333811

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

ROGENIO S. SAN PASCUAL, is no longer connected to TIMBAL MARBLE CO., INC. since Aug. 15, 2002. Any transaction entered by him will not be honored by TMCI.

(PDI--Jan. 26, 2003)

**INVITATION TO BID "AS IS WHERE IS"**
Damaged Motor Vehicles
2001 Honda Civic Lxi/WSB-499
1997 Honda Civic/UPP-497
2001 Mitsubishi Lancer GLX/WSH-595
1997 Honda City 1.3/UTE-916
Various Repairable Appliances
For particulars, call Philam Ins. Co., Inc./ Dick Cariño. Tel.# 75-43-457

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for an independent **Immigration Consultant** to work with a USA attorney who specializes in Investment Visas (only). For particulars, e-mail to vancevest@cvv.us

### MALE/FEMALE

Wanted CHIEF COOK knows International cooking ATTRACTIVE WAITRESS Coll. Level 9136318;4342788 Flory

WANTED JKA KARATE TEACHER 30K/M Send Copy Diploma to 287 - C Dr. Sixto, Antonio Ave. Caniogan, Pasig City

WANTED:
2 MED. TECH., UTZ TECH, X-RAY TECH Female Apply at Perlas Polyclinic, 171 4th Ave. GP Cal. City Look for Onor Angeles

Web Designer Office Staff Writers Stay in/out Jake 4225099 /4776; 09205039590

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### ANNOUNCEMENT

CAREGIVER TRNG 5276418

### NOTICE OF LOSS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC THAT THE STOCK CERTIFICATE NEGROS NAVIGATION WITH 5000 SHARES ISSUED TO PACO CATHOLIC SCHOOL WITH STOCK CERTIFICATE NUMBER 0021343 WAS LOST. IF NO CONTEST RECEIVED NEW CERTIFICATE WILL BE ISSUED
PDI-Jan. 19,26 & Feb. 2, 2002

Notice is hereby given that Celestina V. Gabriel lost her S2 I.D. 18472N00

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**Noritake**
**BODEGA SALE**
**sa DUTY FREE**
DFS Duty Free Store, Clark Eco. Zone, Angeles, Pampanga *Big Discount / Factory Seconds/Jan.26-Feb.16, 10am-7pm Please Call (Mla) 9257212/ 9257365 / Clark (045) 5992361 /62 Cel # (0917)8400026 / Credit Card Accepted

PHARMACY 4 SALE Antipolo City owner goin abroad Tel. 6961025 / 09187133950

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**WANTED**
**FOR TEACHING JOB**
**NURSE / PT**
w/ teaching experience
Please call: 535-5603

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

B/SELL EDUC'L PLAN 8061574

B/SELL FULLY PD EDUC PLAN 780-0106 / 0917-7939632

Buss w/Travel 0916-9368917

Earn P56,000+/mo
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### FRANCHISING

Distributors 4 Sari-Sari Store & Striders USA. 881-1305 (0919) 474-6867

### BUSINESS FOR SALE

Face/Body Clinic T.Morato QC 09179203568 ; 4220349

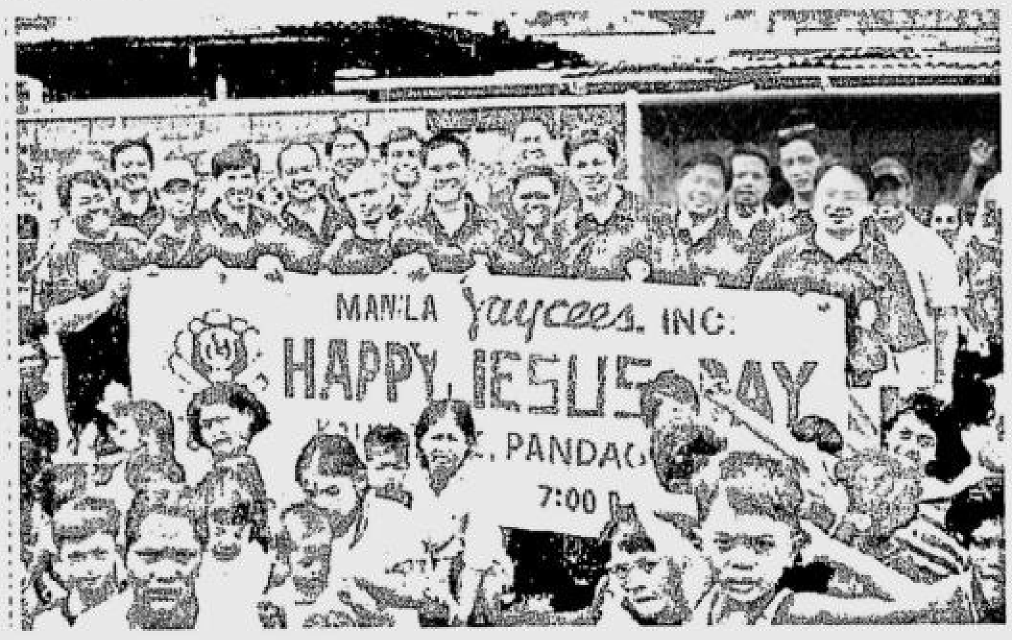
ASIAN TERMINALS INCORPORATED

## NOTICE TO BID

| Lot No. | Description | Make (Brand & Mdl) | Qty | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| I | Xerox Machine | U-Bix 5503/Nashuatec 3322 | 5 | units |
| II | Dental Chair | | 1 | unit |
| III | Motorcycle | Honda TMS 125/L2GF | 2 | units |
| IV | Service Vehicle | Isuzu/Carter Passenger Type Gasoline | 2 | units |
| V | Welding Machine | Gasoline Eng. Driven; Hobart champ 16 111 | 1 | unit |
| VI | Toploader | KOMATSU SD400-1 | 1 | unit |
| VII | Chassis (Skeletal) | Grand Span 40' / Soon Wing 45' | 2 | units |
| VIII | Sideloaders | Cat. 3306V / Taylor TEC 150L | 2 | units |
| IX | Forklifts 3 Tonners | TCM FD30Z5 700 Series | 8 | units |
| X | Forklifts 3 Tonners | TCM FD30Z7 | 4 | units |
| XI | Forklifts 5 Tonners | TCM FD50Z7 | 7 | units |
| XII | Forklifts 3 Tonners | Nissan TD27FGJ02A30U | 2 | units |
| XIII | Forklifts 5 Tonners | NISSAN DFO5AA50U | 1 | unit |
| XIV | Forklifts 3 Tonners | YALE GDP30TEJUAV | 5 | units |
| XV | Forklifts 5 Tonners | YALE GDP50MFJUAV | 4 | units |

Address : MDSF St. So. Harbor, Port Area, Manila
Inspection Date: January 27 to 30, 2003 (Monday –Thursday)
Location : GSD & Season MP
Time : 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM
Contact Person : Engr. Marcelino San Juan – Engg. Sect.
Tel. No. 527-8051 to 86 Loc. 646 or
Contact Person : Mr. Wilfredo B. Estañol – MMD
Tel. No. 527-8051 to 86 Loc. 442
Submission of Bids : Jan. 31, 2003, Friday

(PDI - Jan. 26, 2003)



**HAPPY JESUS DAY**

On December 24, 2002, The Manila Jaycees hosted 300 children in Kahilom, San Andres Bukid as part of their project "Happy Jesus Day". With the cooperation of the Barangay Captain, The Manila Jaycees, spearheaded by Manila JC President Arthur Panganiban, provided entertainment, bags of goodies and Jollibee meals. Also in picture are: Chris Ty, Steve Baltao, Baby JC Joey Lepiten, Baby JC Project Chairman Wilfred Lee, Baby JC Allan Flores, Art Viola, Baby JC Project Vice-Chairman Soc Villanueva, GP Valencia, Director Kerby Chua, Exec. Vice-President Dick Escalona, Baby JC Project Treasurer Joel Mesina, Kendrick Sy, Exec-Vice President Ojie Mamuric, Vice-President Rodney Laurel and Lawrence See.

# Business hinges on political climate

"THE stability of a country's political environment is a major concern of the entrepreneur. Uncertainty brought about by frequent changes in the political-legal parameters can upset a good medium or long range marketing program as well as lead to negative decisions and even withdrawal of foreign investors," says Col. Geronimo A. Dango in his lecture at the entrepreneurship seminar held recently at the Entrepreneurship Institute of the Philippines (now Dynamic Center for Entrepreneurship--DCE).

Stressing that business needs a climate of political stability in order to thrive and prosper, Dango warned that although business, like individuals, can adjust to many different political-legal environments, consequent uncertainty due to frequent changes, can prevent optimal adjustment. One indicator of political instability is the incidence of violence, disruptions, and demonstrations in a country. Even in the absence of violence, potential instability can be discerned if serious inequities exist in a society.

Our country today is being invaded and harassed by the infiltration of lawlessness, holdups, kidnaps, graft and corruption, smuggling, drugs among others which certainly rock the very foundation of our National existence. This must be attributed perhaps to our democratic system, the unique democratic system in the world, because it is full of absurdities, ambiguities, and full of complexities.

A multi-awarded inventor and scientist, Dango is a graduate of UCLA in Small and International Business Management as well as a former senior lecturer on International Marketing at University of the Philippines, MBA program in the Philippine Christian University. A recipient of the prestigious Agora award in Entrepreneurship, he is also among the new Filipinos listed in the world's "Who's Who" and last year's awarded "Huwarang Pilipino 2001" in Science and Technology. As founding president of the Entrepreneurs Society of the Philippines, Dango envisions to assist and promote the development of small and medium enterprises through training, workshops, seminars, consultancy, direct assistance and other support systems and activities.

Dango is also set to launch soon a sequel to his very successful book: "Entrepreneurs: Winning the Future" which has gone a third printing.

A millennium offering to the Filipino entrepreneur and would-be entrepreneur, Dango's new book "How to Organize and Operate a Small Business of Your Own" promises to be a gem of a reference—a step by step guide from start up to the operational mode complete with handy and practical tips and techniques on how to be a successful entrepreneur in the midst of global challenges.

The Dynamic Center for Entrepreneurship (formerly EIP) is now scheduling a series of seminars on Entrepreneurship and Exporting for the year 2003. For reservation call at 722-9427.

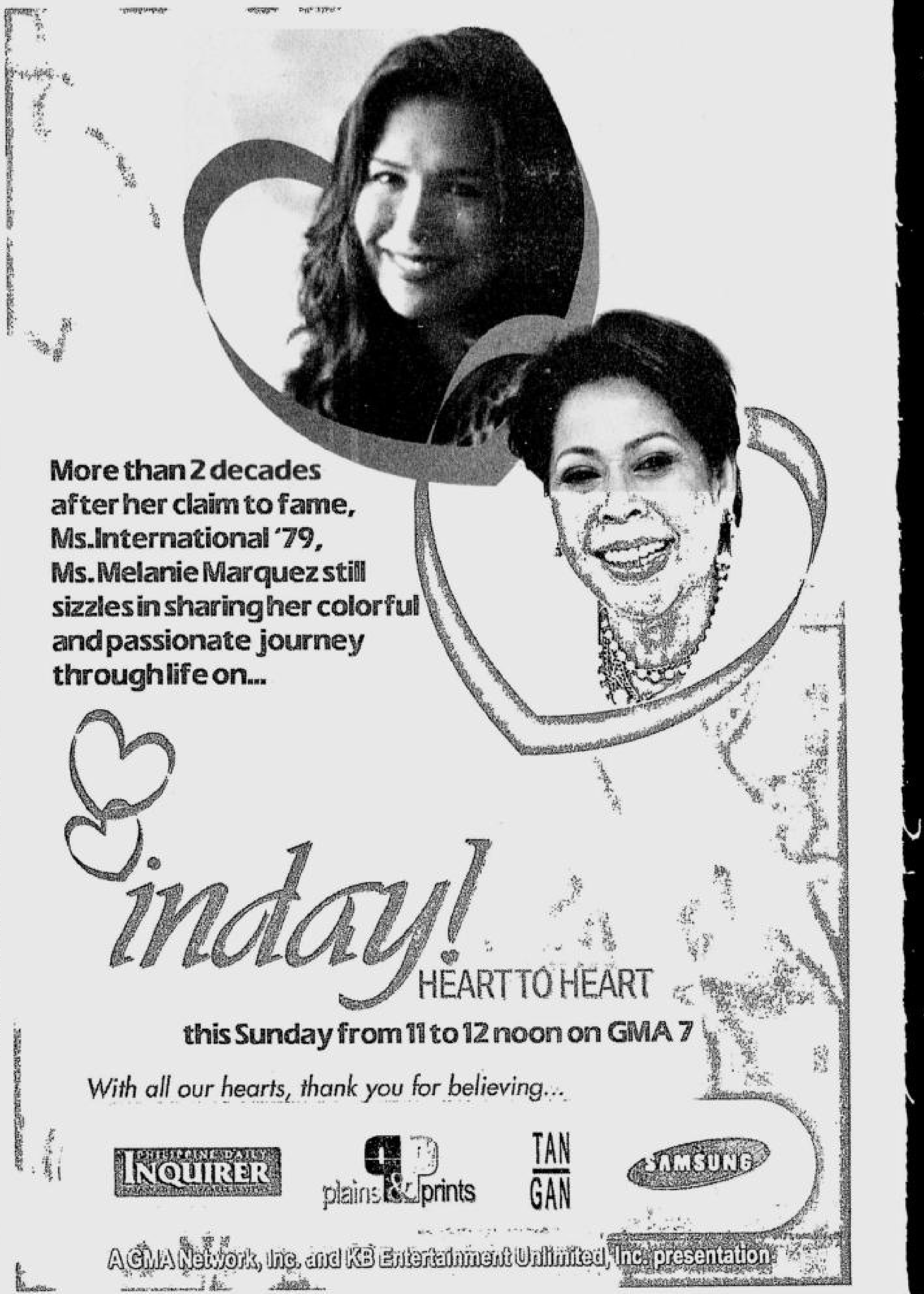
# *Magiclip launches three new products*

MULTI-AWARDED inventor and scientist, Col. Geronimo A. Dango, President and general manager of Magiclip Products Philippines, Inc. recently introduced to the Philippine market three new products: the COMPUHOLDER, the COPYHOLDER, and the CLIP-ALL. The latest of his innovations based on his internationally patented invention, the Magiclip paperholder, these three new products are meant to boost office efficiency and thus productivity.

Attached to the top-front panel of your computer monitor, the magiclip COMPUHOLDER, holds the document you wish to copy at the same level as the monitor itself. While in use, you can adjust it to your desired angle. When you are done, you can swing it back to its neatly folded position atop your monitor. And because it does not occupy space on the table, you don't need to move away your other accessories.

A stand-alone device, the magiclip COPYHOLDER, is easy to position and adjust to any desired distance and angle most convenient to the user. It is perfectly leveled with the computer monitor to further prevent eyestrain. It has a slider that guides your sight to the exact line of focus.

Small in size but mighty in its holding power, the magiclip CLIP-ALL holds your notes, cards, bills, tickets, and other similar items. It is ideal to have one in your car. With the magiclip CLIP-ALL, you will never lose any of those parking, toll or trip tickets. No matter how many humps and bumps you get through, this handy device is reliable and convenient to use. Call tels. 722-9427, 721-2671 or telefax 722-1606.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Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL
CITY OF OROQUIETA
OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR
Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project

## INVITATION TO RE-BID

**Date: January 26, 2003**
World Bank/IBRD Loan No. 4109-PH

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of the Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project (ARCDP) and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the following contracts located at the City of Oroquieta, Misamis Occidental Province. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loan and IDA Credits.

The City of Oroquieta, Misamis Occidental Province and implementing partner of the DAR for ARCDP invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the construction of the following sub-project:

**Contract No. 200243103DNS-MOC**
Description of the Project: Construction of one (1) unit, 129 sq.m. (inclusive mezzanine/office) multi-purpose building
Bidding Documents: P2,500.00 (non-refundable)
**Bid Closing Date: February 27, 2003, 10:00 AM**

| Item No. | Scope of Work | Quantity | Unit |
|---|---|---|---|
| I | Excavation/Backfill Works | 1.00 | lot |
| II | Filling Materials | 39.60 | cu.m |
| III | Concrete Works | 49.94 | cu.m |
| IV | Masonry Works | 962.30 | sq.m |
| V | Reinforcing Steel | 6,138.87 | kgs |
| VI | Steel Works | 1.00 | lot |
| VII | Pre-Fab Door & Steel Casement | 20.46 | sq.m |
| VIII | Carpentry Works | 30.51 | sq.m |
| IX | Plumbing, Tiling & Septic Vault | 1.00 | lot |
| X | Electrical | 1.00 | lot |
| XI | Painting | 792.80 | sq.m |
| | Minimum Bid Security | 10,000.00 | Php |
| | Duration | 120 CD | |

**Minimum Equipment's Required**
Plumbing Tools – Owned, Bagger Mixer-Leased/Owned, Concrete Vibrator-Leased/Owned, Stake Truck-Leased/Owned

A complete set of bidding documents maybe purchase by interested bidders at above office starting January 27, 2003, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM upon payment of the above non-refundable fee per contract/sub-project. A Pre-bid Conference will be held on **February 12, 2003**, 10:00 AM at the City Mayor's Office.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security only the following/acceptable form; cash, Certified Check, Manager's Check, Bank Draft, or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency, and must be delivered to the Office of the City Mayor, Oroquieta City, Misamis Occidental on or before the bid closing date. Bids will be opened promptly on the above bid closing date in the presence of participating bidders or representatives who choose to attend.

The PBAC-ARCDP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnity to the contractor/bidder for any expense that they incur in the preparation of bid to accept the bid lowest evaluated, responsive and complying bid.

(Sgd.) HON. NANCY S. BANDALA
City Mayor/Chairman PBAC-ARCDP

(PDI-Jan. 26, 2003)

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# Four outstanding professionals receive 2002 Tofil Award

THE PHILIPPINE Jaycee Senate (PJS) and Insular Life honored four outstanding professionals with the "The Outstanding Filipino" (Tofil) Award in ceremonies held recently at the Insular Life Corporate Center Auditorium in Alabang, Muntinlupa City. The awardees were: Quezon City Mayor Feliciano R. Belmonte Jr., for public service; Dr. David M. Consunji, for construction industry; Dr. Emil Q. Javier, for science and technology; and Dr. George S.K. Ty, for banking.

1998 Tofil awardee for business and chair emeritus of the Phinma Group ambassador Ramon V. del Rosario Sr., was the guest speaker of the event, which was graced by family, friends and associates of the awardees as well as distinguished personalities from government, business, civil society, and the academe.

Insular Life chair and president Vicente R. Ayllon extolled the four awardees, who, by virtue of their achievements and examples, have clearly shown that "life becomes more productive and meaningful if it is lived in service of others."

Mayor Belmonte has dedicated most of his life to serving the needs of the people through excellent fiscal management, good governance, providing solutions to socio-economic and political problems as CEO of large government corporations, then as congressman, and now, as city mayor.

Dr. Consunji, founded D.M. Consunji Inc. one of the largest construction companies in the country. He is known as the "infrastructure philosopher" and "grandfather of physical planning," and whose structures have become landmarks and symbols of the country's progress.

Dr. Javier on the other hand, has dedicated his life to promoting the advances of science and technology, particularly in agriculture, in order to help alleviate poverty in the Philippines, and in other third world countries.

Dr. Ty, a banker, enterprise-builder, and philanthropist has always regarded his success as a greater means to share his resources with the less privileged in the society. To further concretize this vision, he established a foundation, which has, to date, benefited not only the underprivileged, but also various sectors of the society.

For 15 years now, the Tofil Awards has been recognizing Filipino men and women in diverse fields, whose extraordinary accomplishments have inspired hope among Filipinos and have contributed to nation-building.

IN PHOTO are (from left): 2002 Tofil chair, JCI Sen. Iluminado Montemayor; Philippine Jaycee Senate (PJS) president Leoncio Villa-Abrille; guest speaker and former Tofil awardee ambassador Ramon del Rosario Sr.; Mayor Belmonte; Dr. Consunji; Dr. Javier; Dr. Ty; Mr. Ayllon; Tofil chair emeritus JCI Sen. Jose Halili-Co; chair of the board of judges and former Department of Education, Culture and Sports secretary Dr. Armand V. Fabella; and immediate past president of PJS JCI Sen. John Bautista.

THREE JCI World presidents meet at Tofil Awards. They are Ambassador Ramon del Rosario Sr., Feliciano Belmonte and Victor Luciano (third, fourth, and fifth from left, respectively). Also in photo are JCI Sen. Vic Soliven; Insular Life chair and president Mr Ayllon; JCI Sen. Nonoy Villa-Abrille; JCI Sen. Tony Vidal and JC Joel Sarza.

WITH Mr Ayllon are other distinguished guests. (From left) former SSS chair Renato Valencia; Insular Life trustee Dr. Bernardo Villegas; former Secretary of Trade Jose Pardo and Mrs Pardo.

# Glucerna SR joins diabetes confab

NEW Glucerna SR, a nutritional brand formulated as an integral part of every diabetic's healthy meal plan, was one of the major participants in the Philippine Diabetes Association Annual Convention held last Dec. 4 and 5 at the Century Park Hotel.

Recognizing the need to improve dietary compliance among patients with diabetes, Abbott Laboratories developed new Glucerna SR as a great tasting formula to encourage regular usage, while optimizing blood glucose response. New Glucerna SR is heart-healthy because it has monounsaturated fats (Mufa) and helps in the weight management concerns of diabetics.

Aside from updating physicians in current trends of diabetes management, the convention also treated the members of the diabetes community to a specially-themed Glucerna SR suite, where they participated in games, availed of enticing giveaways, sang to their heart's content in a videoke corner, enjoyed Glucerna SR beverages and recipes, and many more.

New Glucerna SR is now available in Mercury Drug branches, Watsons, and in selected hospital and drug accounts nationwide. As part of Abbott's customer service, Home Care Solution Hotline (6890444) is available from Monday to Friday, 8 to 5 for nutrition counseling.

# Touch Mobile, Jollibee tie-up ongoing until Jan. 31

BUYERS and swappers of a Touch Mobile Super Value Sim have until Jan. 31 to avail of the ongoing promotional tie-up between Touch Mobile and the country's leading fastfood chain Jollibee.

Under the promo, which was launched on Dec. 1, a Touch Mobile Super Value SIM can be purchased for only P170 or buyers may swap non-Globe SIM with a Touch Mobile Super Value SIM and pay only P125 at any authorized Touch Mobile outlet or Globe Telecom business center.

Buyers or swappers simply have to activate their SIM by dialing 802 or just make their first call and wait for a text message within 24 hours informing them that they can avail of a free Jollibee 1-piece Chickenjoy value meal (inclusive of regular softdrink) redeemable until April 1 at Jollibee stores around the country.

To claim the freebie, subscribers may present the received test message at any Jollibee branch nationwide together with the SIM pack envelope or plastic housing of the Touch Mobile SIM.

MANILA Jaycees, INC.
HAPPY JESUS DAY
PANDAC
7:00

**JAYCEES HOST OUTREACH PROGRAM**

Last Dec. 24, The Manila Jaycees hosted 300 children in Kahilom, San Andres Bukid as part of their project 'Happy Jesus Day'. With the cooperation of the barangay captain, The Manila Jaycees, spearheaded by Manila JC president Arthur Panganiban, provided entertainment, bags of goodies and Jollibee meals. Also in picture are: Chris Ty, Steve Baltao, baby JC Joey Lepiten, baby JC project chair Wilfred Lee, baby JC Allan Flores, Art Viola, baby JC project vice-chair Soc Villanueva, GP Valencia, director Kerby Chua, executive vice president Dick Escalona, baby JC project treasurer Joel Mesina, Kendrick Sy, executive vice president Ojie Mamuric, vice president Rodney Laurel and Lawrence See.

# New option in acne treatment

ACNE or pimples is a skin disorder that occurs when excess oil production clog the pores at the base of the hair follicles, especially on the face, back, chest and shoulders. Bacteria may form in these clogged pores resulting in red inflamed pimples, pus-filled whiteheads or blackheads.

It is during the teenage years that problems with acne arises because of the changes in hormonal level and drastic increase in the amount of androgens which causes the oil gland to become overactive. Since hormonal imbalance plays a role in the development of acne, regulation of the balance between hormones in the body is necessary. Clinical trials conducted recently in the Netherlands proved that hormonal therapy can be effective in the prevention of acne formation and cure or improvement of existing acne.

The study used a low-dosed bi-phasic pill. Results showed that the bi-phasic pill Gracial was effective in the treatment of mild to moderate acne and that improvement of acne progressively increases with longer treatment duration.

# Creative director is grand winner of contest

RUSSELL Roland Molina, creative director of Publicis-AMA, has been chosen as the grand winner of the 2003 PBBY-Salanga Writers' Prize. The nationwide contest is an annual activity of the Philippine Board on Books for Young People (PBBY), and is co-sponsored by the Cultural Center of the Philippines and The National Library. It is open to all Filipino citizens except those related to any PBBY member up to the third degree of consanguinity.

This is not the first time that Molina has won a contest sponsored by the PBBY. Molina was also a finalist for the 1998 PBBY-Salanga Writers' Prize and grand winner of the 2002 PBBY Illustrators' Prize for the story, "Uuwi na ang Nanay kong si Darna!" by Edgar Samar. Molina will receive a gold medal and a P25,000 cash prize during formal PBBY Awarding Ceremonies on National Children's Book Day, July 15 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

For more information, contact telephone number 372-3548-49, fax number 372-4204, or email address pbby@adarna.com.ph. Look for Dencel.

# Smart's amazing visits - finally a winner

After an eager and suspenseful three months, SMART's Amazing Visits had its Grand Draw last January 10, 2003, bringing a fitting climax to a raffle for SMART subscribers. Amazing Visits now has its P1M winner, chosen nationwide and who will now join the long roster of previous winners of other amazing SMART prize packages.

From September 29, 2002 to December 29, 2002, walk-in customers who made a visit to SMART Wireless Centers and signed up for SMART Buddy, SMART Gold, or Talk n Text as well as transacting for VAS, sales, or after-sales were electronically entered into a customer database, making them eligible for prizes.

The Grand Draw was conducted by officers of SMART and Wireless Centers and held at SMART offices at the Rufino Tower. Previous prizes ranged from FREE Super SIM Packs, P1,000 FREE Airtime Packages, SMART Prepaid Phone Kits with options among Siemens, Philips, Alcatel and Mitsubishi handsets, as well as monthly winners of P100,000.

So visit the nearest SMART Wireless Center today not only for the best celfone deals available, but also to keep tab on the next amazing promo for you!

*Eldi David, Eden Techico, DPI Rep. Frollan Ibay, Vien Ranja, Dylan Lacsamana & Bing Payumo*

*Sunday* BIZ
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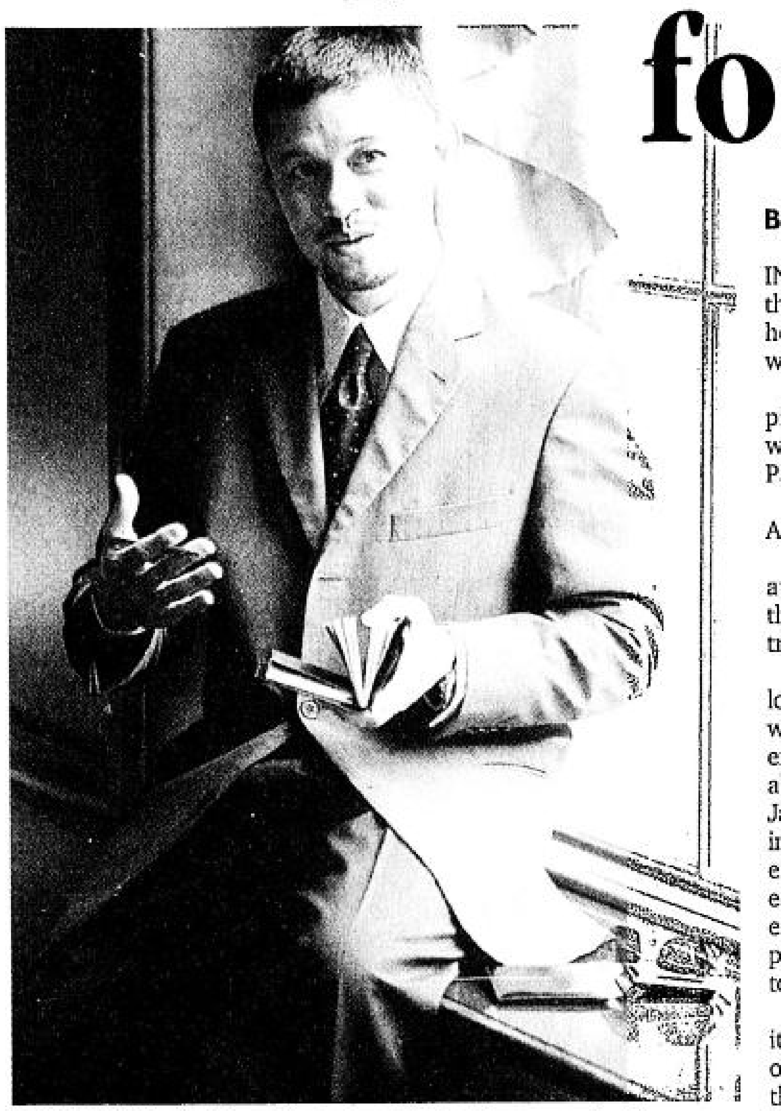
# Who pays the price for a Bvlgari?



DENNIS Valdes in Bvlgari St. Exupery necktie in navy and yellow, smooth black leather diary, Eccentrica pen in yellow and gold, men's sunglasses, business card holder in smooth black leather. ROMY HOMILLADA

**By Margie Quimpo-Espino**

IN LATE 1997, Mario O. Katigbak, the "accidental" local franchise holder of Bvlgari, brought in 100 watches from Switzerland.

After a month, they had 30 pieces left. The price tags of these watches were from P60,000 to P350,000.

And that was the height of the Asian financial crisis.

Katigbak himself was surprised at the sales but attributed this to the hype they created before introducing the brand.

He says Bvlgari clients are very loyal and some of their big clients were already owners of the high-end brand even before it was available in Manila. For a while, the Japanese were big buyers accounting for 30 percent of sales. However with the downturn in the world economy and the slow down in foreign investments in the Philippines, the number of Japanese visitors to the country dropped.

Katigbak explains that Bvlgari items cost more in Japan because of the level of duties imposed in the country.

But Filipino clients remain active. And since 1999, Katigbak says annual sales increases have been at double-digit levels.

The local franchise is owned by Horology Jewelry Center, which has six shareholders including Katigbak. The group expects to get their return on investment this year.

Katigbak says the usual ROI period for high-end businesses is eight to 10 years.

In terms of number of items sold, Katigbak says their top seller is the watches. However, in terms of value, jewelry is way ahead. Some of their necklaces sell for as high as P4 million each.

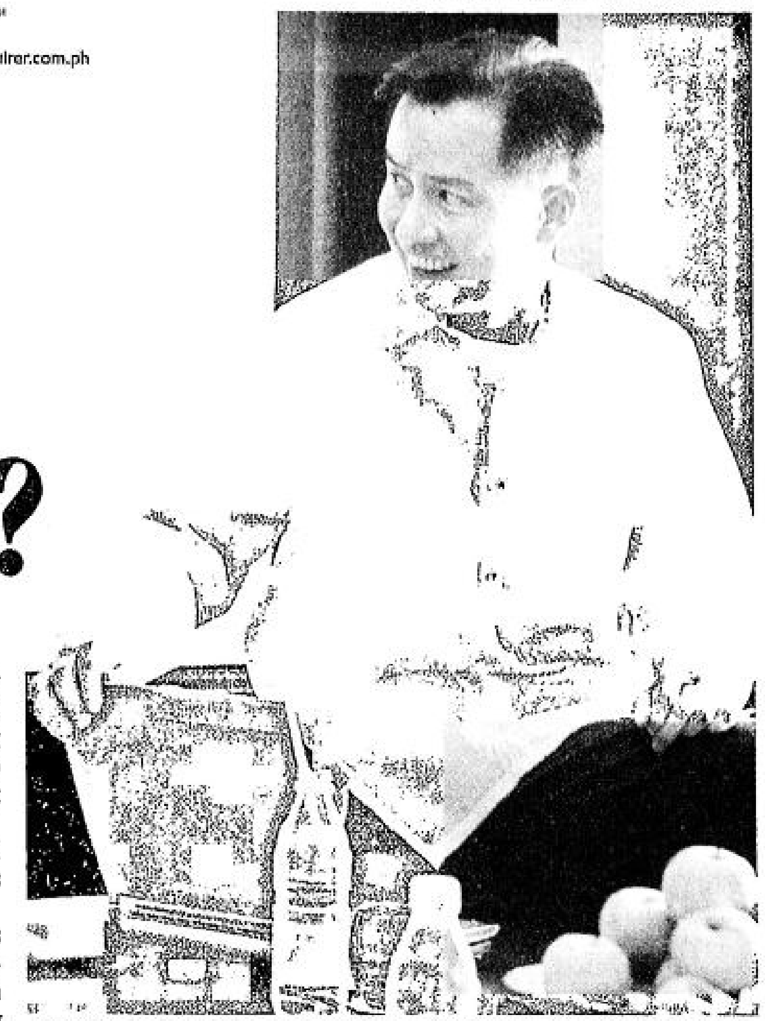
Who is the typical Bvlgari buyer?

Katigbak says they do not really have casual shoppers. Many of their clients call or come in looking for a particular item.

"People come in with something in mind. We have minimal displays," he explains admitting that their boutique at the 6750 in Makati can be intimidating for some.

For first timers, he says they usually get something affordable. Then they come back after a couple of months and buy a more expensive item. Usually first timers get their feet wet in the expensive brand with a watch.

Of their clients, 60 percent are repeat buyers while 40 percent are new. He tries to meet new clients and give them advice about the piece they intend to buy.



BVLGARI yellow and gold and steel cufflinks and studs for Sammy Coyiuto's barong.

Katigbak categorizes Bvlgari clients as follows: the young, aged 25 to 35 years old who buy basic rings and watches; the more mature, aged 35 to 50 years who buy the bigger stones; and the well-established clients who go for the necklaces and dangling earrings and jeweled watches.

Bvlgari buyers are not just the well-heeled. Katigbak's clients include entrepreneurs and professionals.

He notes that although there is a global economic crisis, there are a lot of thriving young entrepreneurs in the Philippines who shop in Bvlgari.

And these entrepreneurs are among the reasons why Bvlgari wants to open a second boutique in the country. The firm is considering several sites.

They are looking at the possibility of opening a different kind of store that will realign the market.

The trend in Bvlgari shops abroad is to open two boutiques in the same area with each shop offering a different product line targetting a particular market.

Bvlgari items include leather goods, eyewear and silks.

WHO/ B5

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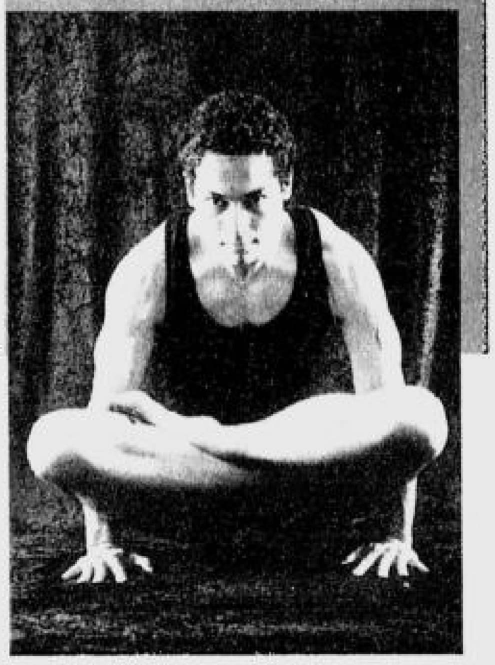
Sunday LIFE
Editor: Chelo Banal-Formoso

# IN THE ZONE

Guest editor Jon-jon Rufino



# The paths to well-being

By Jon-jon Rufino

THERE is a myriad of options available to us on how to achieve physical and mental vitality, from the very familiar clean living lifestyle of exercise and moderation to the ancient practices of the East, ranging from martial arts, yoga, Zen meditation, to treatments like acupuncture and reflexology.

What was formerly considered too esoteric for general practice is being accepted and embraced by Western cultures, some slowly, some with frightening fad-like speed.

With yoga, for instance, the participation of world-recognized celebrities like Madonna and Sting has propelled the 5,000-year-old practice into the gyms and studios of every major city in the world.

Is it a fad? Perhaps, but the benefits cannot be denied, because after the hip-ness of it wears out, there will remain those who rode in with the trend, but who have allowed the philosophy to change and enhance their life.

In this section, we examine some of the paths we have toward a healthy body and a clean mind.

Rosanna Escudero discusses the ignored dangers of living in a toxic world. We all complain about pollution in the metropolis, but there are other ways we can avoid exposure to dangerous chemicals in our food, in our soaps and cosmetics, in our household products, and in our water.

She then explains the rejuvenating powers of fasting, well known to the ancients and practiced by no less than Jesus Christ.

Escudero also discusses the curative properties of olive oil, not only in food, but as a cleanser, a moisturizer and a salve.

Amanda Carpo talks about her experiences with reflexology, an enjoyable therapy that is supported by a deep understanding of the body.

Marina Ortiz talks about her passion, Iyengar Yoga, perhaps not as popular as Ashtanga Yoga, or the other dynamic variations of Hatha Yoga, but integral to anyone who is serious about the practice. Growth in this discipline may not be as flashy, but a greater understanding of the postures is afforded.

Gizela Montinola then gives us her perspective of Zen meditation, an often quoted but mostly misunderstood discipline. She touches on the underlying philosophy that media has turned into a design catch-phrase.

We also have Lucy Fernandez describing her experiences in a labyrinth in Tagaytay, where she finds refuge and direction when she feels life becomes too complicated.

The danger in this day and age is not that the solutions are not available to us, but that we might not delve deeply enough into them for the practices to be effective.

In a recent movie, a nurse complains to Susan Sarandon's character that she consults four different doctors behind their backs, and then chooses and combines which remedies they suggest that suite her tastes.

I have relatives who play the same game with their health, mixing the powerful drugs from doctors with the potent herbal mixtures of Chinese traditional medicine, and sticking with the treatment until they get bored.

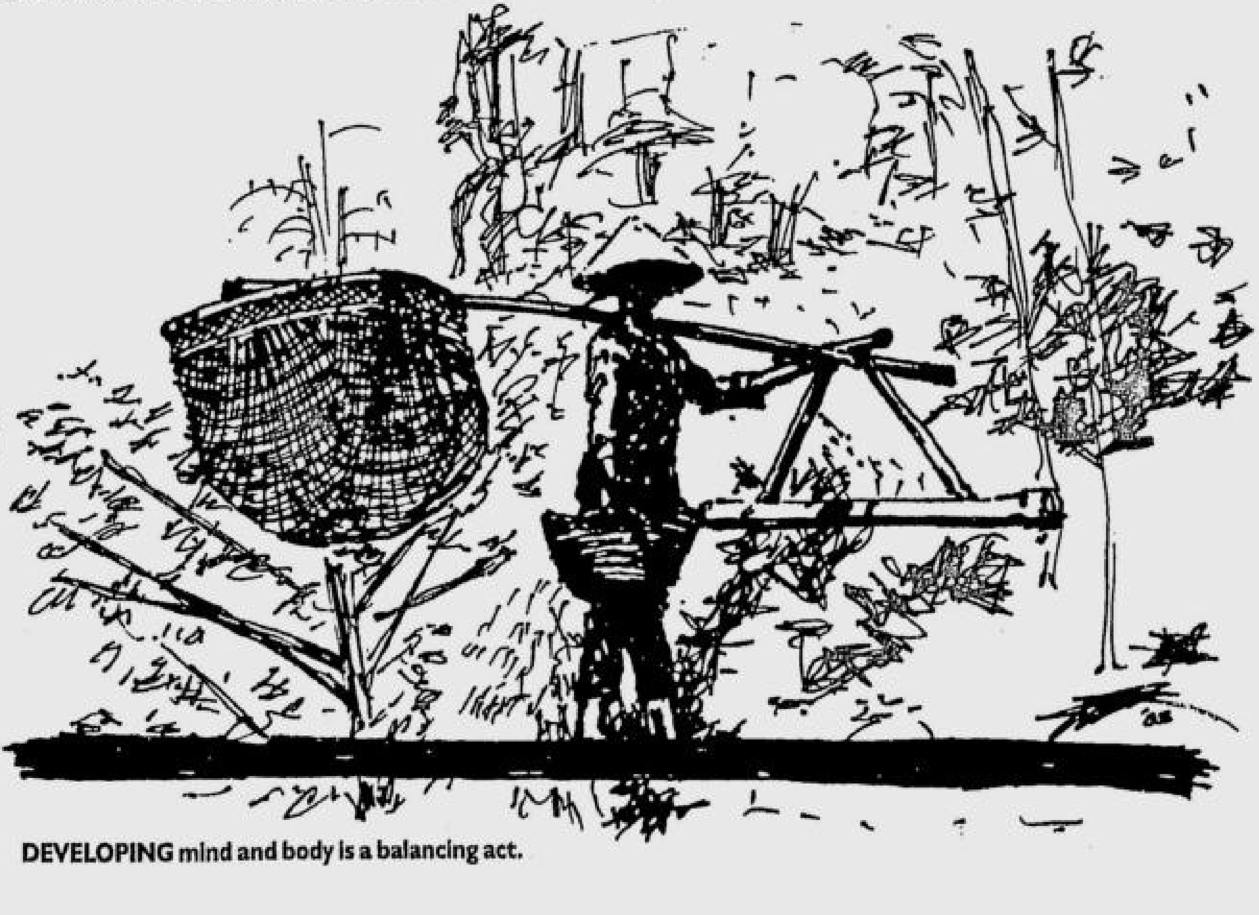
None of these avenues to health and well-being are a one-shot panacea. All of them promise results after weeks, months, sometimes a lifestyle of consistent discipline.

However, we are lucky in that the deeper we delve into any worthwhile practice, the more enjoyable the experience becomes.

It's nice to be a jack of all trades and master of none, but to really get into the zone, the union of body, mind and soul where everything is effortless and enjoyable, we must choose our discipline and maintain our commitment.

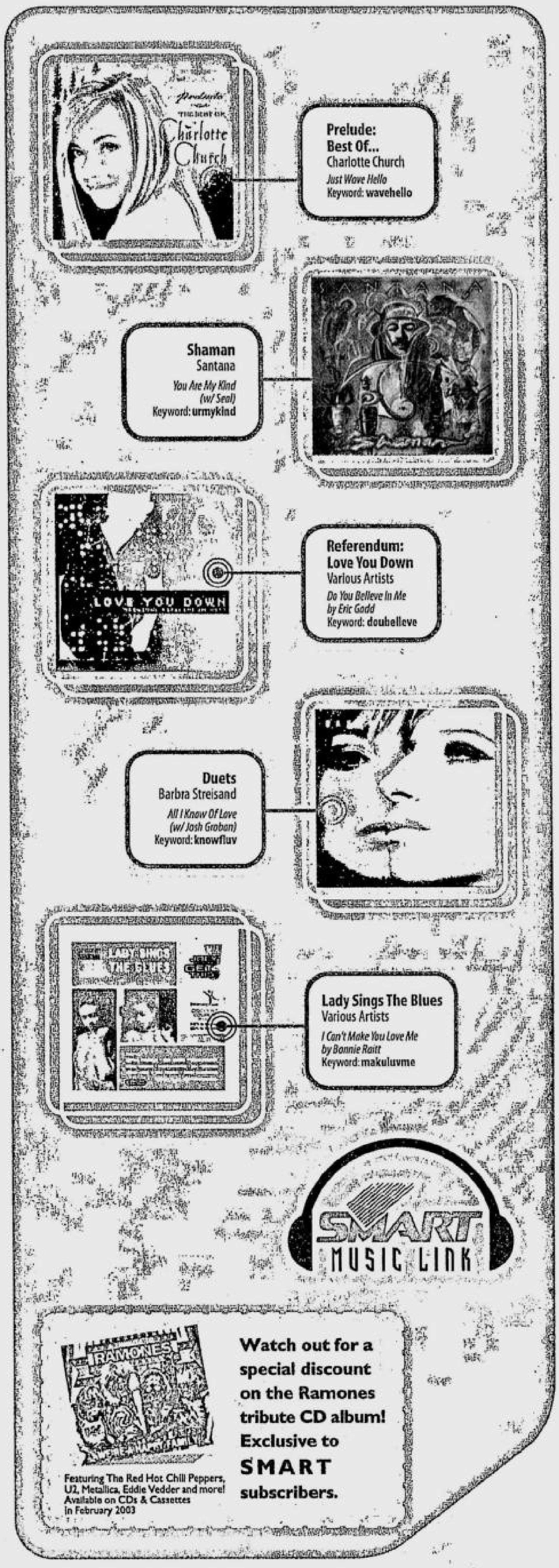
> No single avenue to health and well being is a one-shot panacea. But the deeper you go into any worthwhile practice, the more enjoyable the experience becomes

**ANGELS OF HEALTH AND HEALING.** Rosanna Escudero, Marina Ortiz and Lucy Fernandez



**DEVELOPING** mind and body is a balancing act.

Simply rocking the charts



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*Just Wave Hello*
Keyword: wavehello

**Shaman**
Santana
*You Are My Kind (w/ Seal)*
Keyword: urmykind

**Referendum: Love You Down**
Various Artists
*Do You Believe In Me by Eric Gadd*
Keyword: doubelleve

**Duets**
Barbra Streisand
*All I Know Of Love (w/ Josh Groban)*
Keyword: knowfluv

**Lady Sings The Blues**
Various Artists
*I Can't Make You Love Me by Bonnie Raitt*
Keyword: makuluvme

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Josh Groban
keyword: *vincent*
3 **Room For Squares: Limited Edition**
John Mayer
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Santana
keyword: *urmykind*
7 **It Had To Be You... The Great American Songbook**
Rod Stewart
8 **Hijas Del Tomate**
Las Ketchup
keyword: *ketzupsong*
9 **Piolo**
Piolo Pascual
10 **You Had Me At Hello**
Various Artists
11 **Let Go**
Avril Lavigne
12 **Only Selfless Love 2**
Various Artists
13 **More Than You Think You Are**
Matchbox 20
keyword: *disease*
14 **Referendum: Love You Down**
Various Artists
keyword: *doubelleve*
15 **Duets**
Barbra Streisand
keyword: *knowfluv*
16 **Masters Of Chant Chapter III**
Gregorian
17 **Prelude: Best Of**
Charlotte Church
keyword: *wavehello*
18 **Best Of 1990-2000**
U2
19 **Rivermaya: Live & Acoustic**
Rivermaya
20 **Simply The Best 60's**
Various Artists
21 **Lady Sings The Blues**
Various Artists
keyword: *makuluvme*
22 **Chicago Story: Complete Greatest Hits**
Chicago
23 **Beyond Words: Music Of Gary Valenciano**
Various Artists
24 **8 Mile - OST**
Eminem
25 **Charmbracelet**
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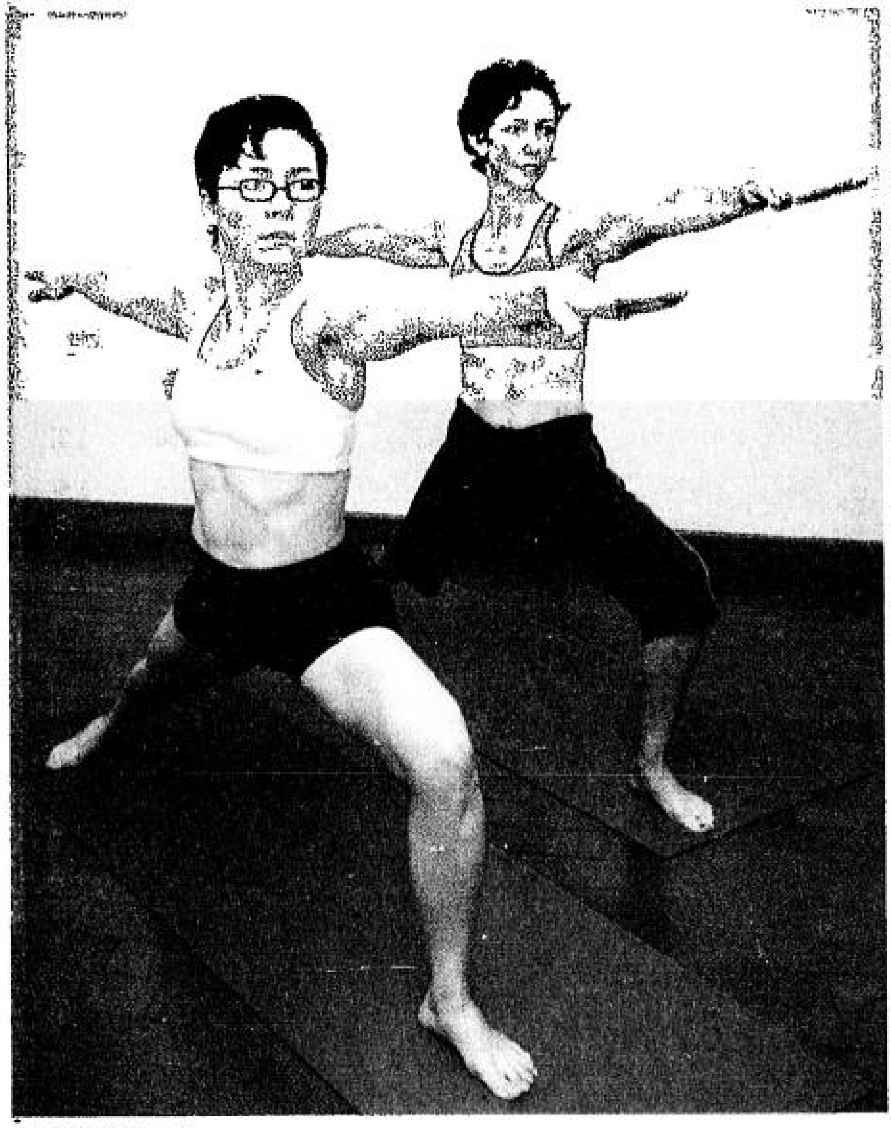
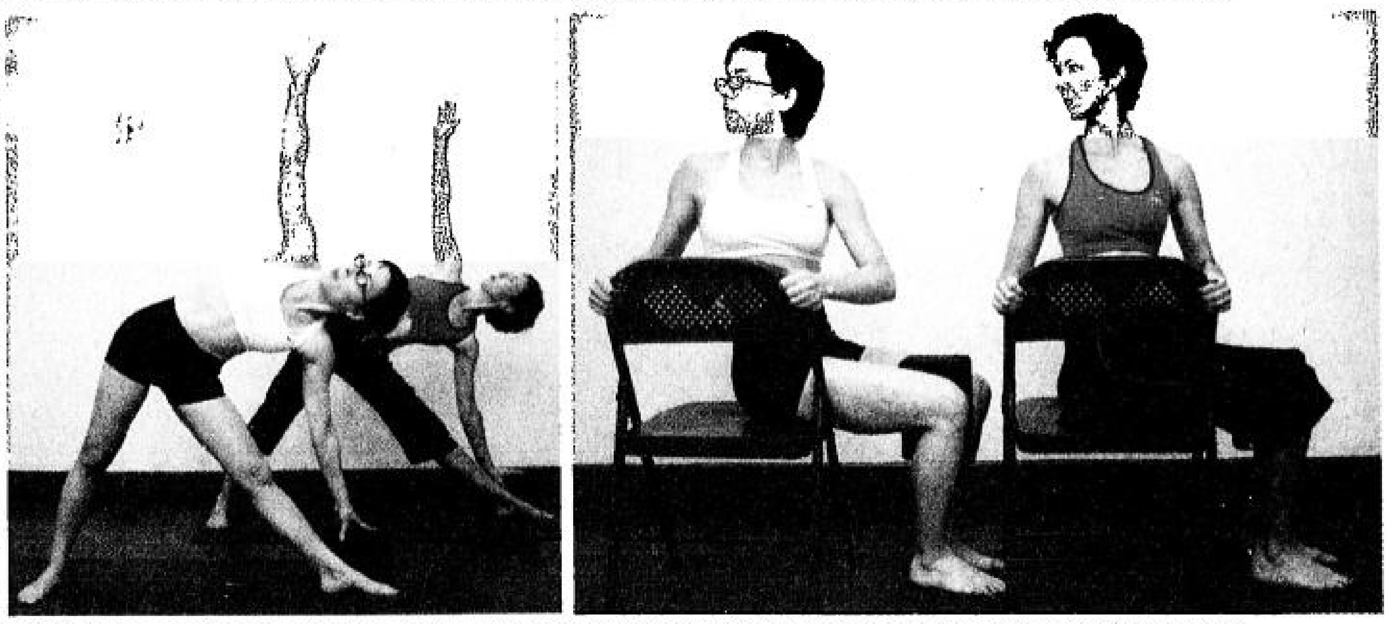
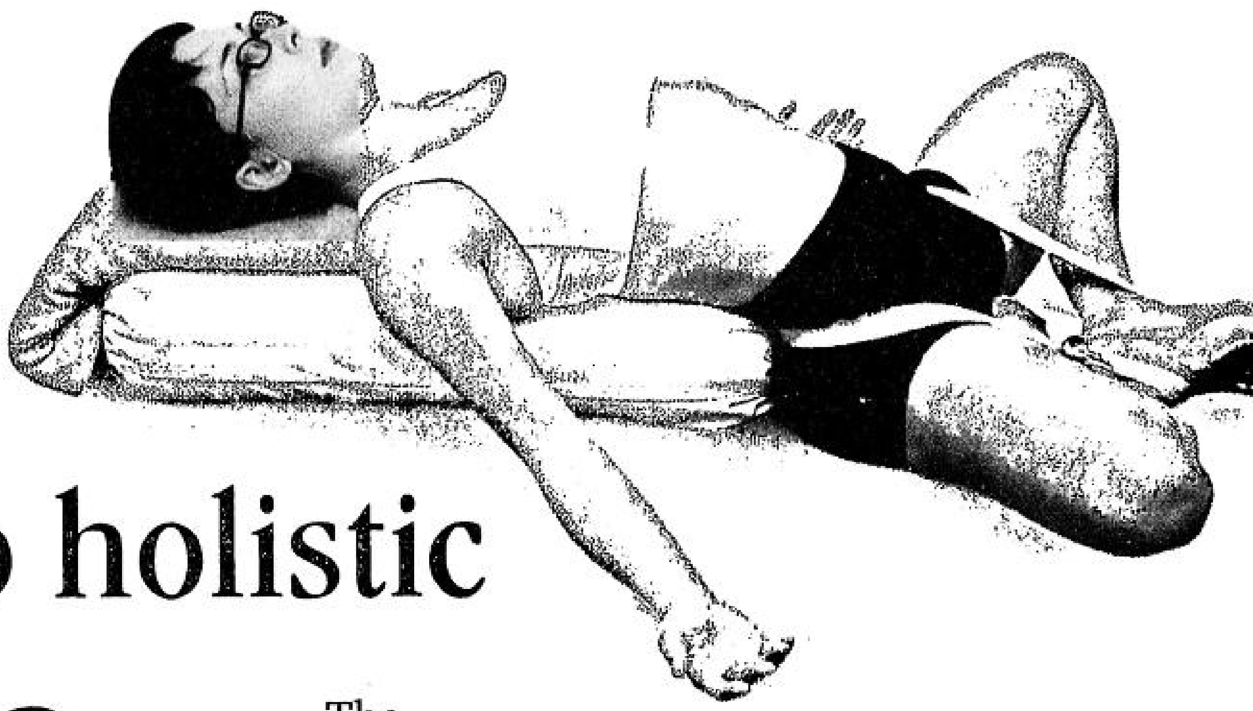


**STRENGTH** and elegance: Virabidrasana, the side warrior. The left knee is at 90°, the back leg is engaged, the knee cap and arch pulling up and the shoulders are relaxed.



**IYENGAR** yoga makes use of blocks, chairs, pillows, anything on hand in order to correct the alignment of the posture.



# The path to holistic health

The answer to relieving the body of sickness and decay lies within it

By Marina Rosa Ortiz

LIKE Dorothy in the "Wizard of Oz," man has searched far and wide for the path to health. Whether it is staying young and healthy or curing the many ailments that attack the body, Western medicine and Eastern remedies have been the usual directions.

Very few escape the reality of growing old. Eventually, age overtakes us and we can no longer ignore the aches, pains and even the lost vitality. We start to look for answers.

But the answer is within ourselves. Like Dorothy's red ruby slippers, the answer to our health problems could be within our bodies.

What is that answer? Iyengar Yoga. But what is yoga? It was developed over 2,000 years ago when ancient sages meditated on the human condition. They refined their practices and findings and came up with yoga.

But people have preconceived notions about yoga. Some imagine the physical body put in all kinds of positions. Others picture an *ashram* where people sit and meditate or chant all day. Still others think it is a cult.

Yoga is all of these and more. Yoga is classically divided into eight aspects or limbs. The limbs are interconnected, where knowledge gained from one is used for the other. It all leads progressively to answer all the other needs—physical, spiritual, emotional, and moral.

What is Iyengar Yoga, my personal practice?

It is a yoga style developed by living yoga master and guru B.K.S. Iyengar, fondly called *guruji*, meaning "my teacher." It begins with the learning of *asanas* and then *pranayama*. It then progresses to learning the rest of the eight limbs or aspects of yoga.

The method of study is orderly and progressive, where postures are adjusted by the teacher to meet the physical conditions and needs of each student.

There is particular care given to each individual since every person is anatomically different from one another. Props like blocks, belts, bolsters are used to aid students to get into the pose properly as Iyengar. Yoga is very particular about alignment and refinement in the *asana*. It is vital to get into the *asanas* properly to be able to reap the benefits that each *asana* has to offer.

Strength, coordination, flexibility and an increased sense of well being are some of the benefits of the Iyengar Yoga.

Through the consistent practice of the *asanas* and *pranayama*, students are guided toward increased awareness of their own physical, emotional and spiritual lives. They experience meditation in action, a state of being focused and absorbed in the moment.

## Twists and turns

The practice of *asanas* or posture is what we most commonly see today as yoga. It fosters awareness of the body. These *asanas* are basically divided into twists, inversion, back bends, supine and prone poses, sitting and standing poses, delivering different benefits.

The twists massage the internal organs, which help purge them of toxins. They help relieve backaches and headaches. They check stiffness of the back and limbs. They help improve digestion.

Twists help the spine become supple and improve the flow of blood to the spinal nerves, which in turn increases energy levels.

The inversions bring freshly oxygenated blood to the pituitary gland and thyroid glands, toning and revitalizing the glandular system.

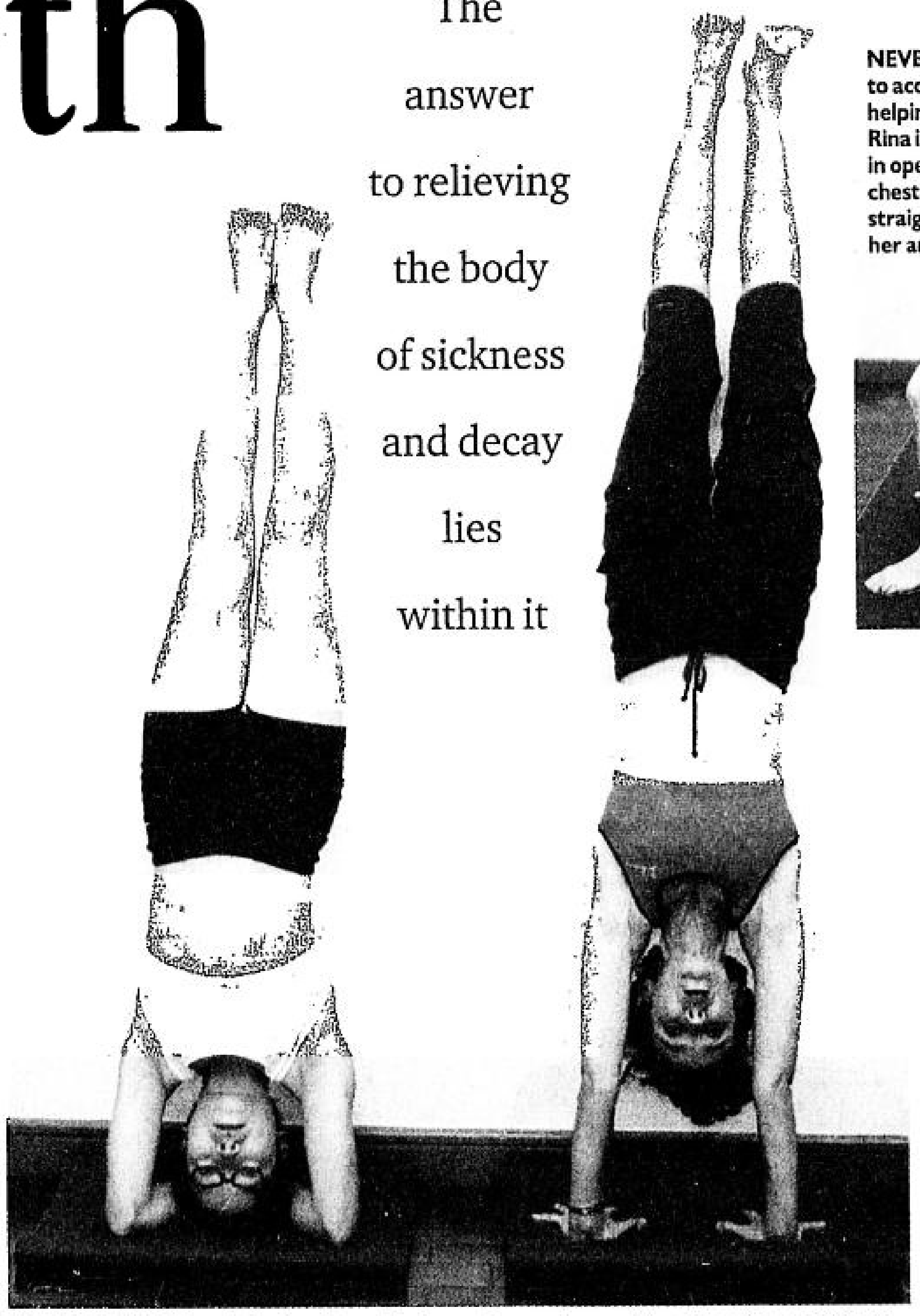
The nervous system also benefits as freshly oxygenated blood is brought to the brain. This gives a calming effect on the mind without decreasing its alertness. Salamba Sirsasana or headstand aids sleep and reverses some of the effects of gravity on the face.

Back bends stimulate the central nervous system. They increase the ability of the body to bear stress. In particular, Urdhva Dhanurasana or upward facing bow and bridge, with Ustrasana or camel pose, is known to combat depression. Back bends energize and rejuvenate the body.

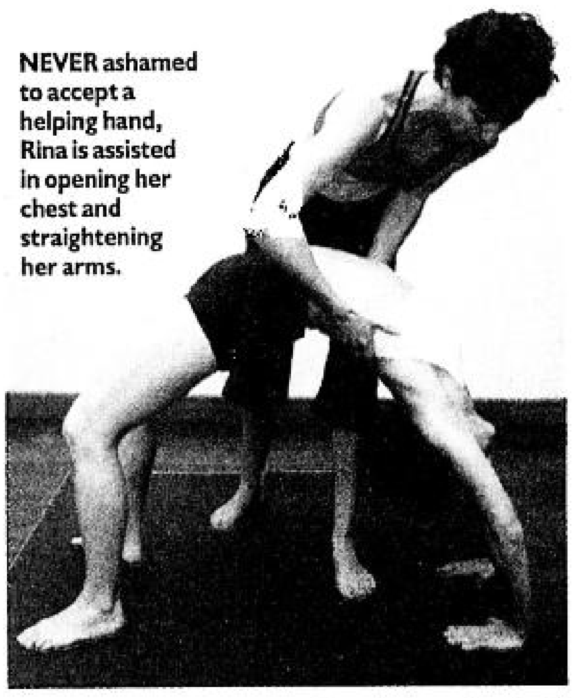
Supine and prone *asanas* stretch the abdominal cavity and the regions around it. It is an aid to menstruation. It also fosters the mobility of the spine and hips. Many of the *asanas* here are very relaxing and calming.

Sitting *asanas* are divided into upright positions and forward bends. These *asanas* stabilize blood pressure and promote restful sleep. They remove fatigue and soothe the nerves. They aid digestion and counter the effects of excessive bile secretion. They also develop flexibility in the knee joints, ankles, muscles of the groin area and hips.

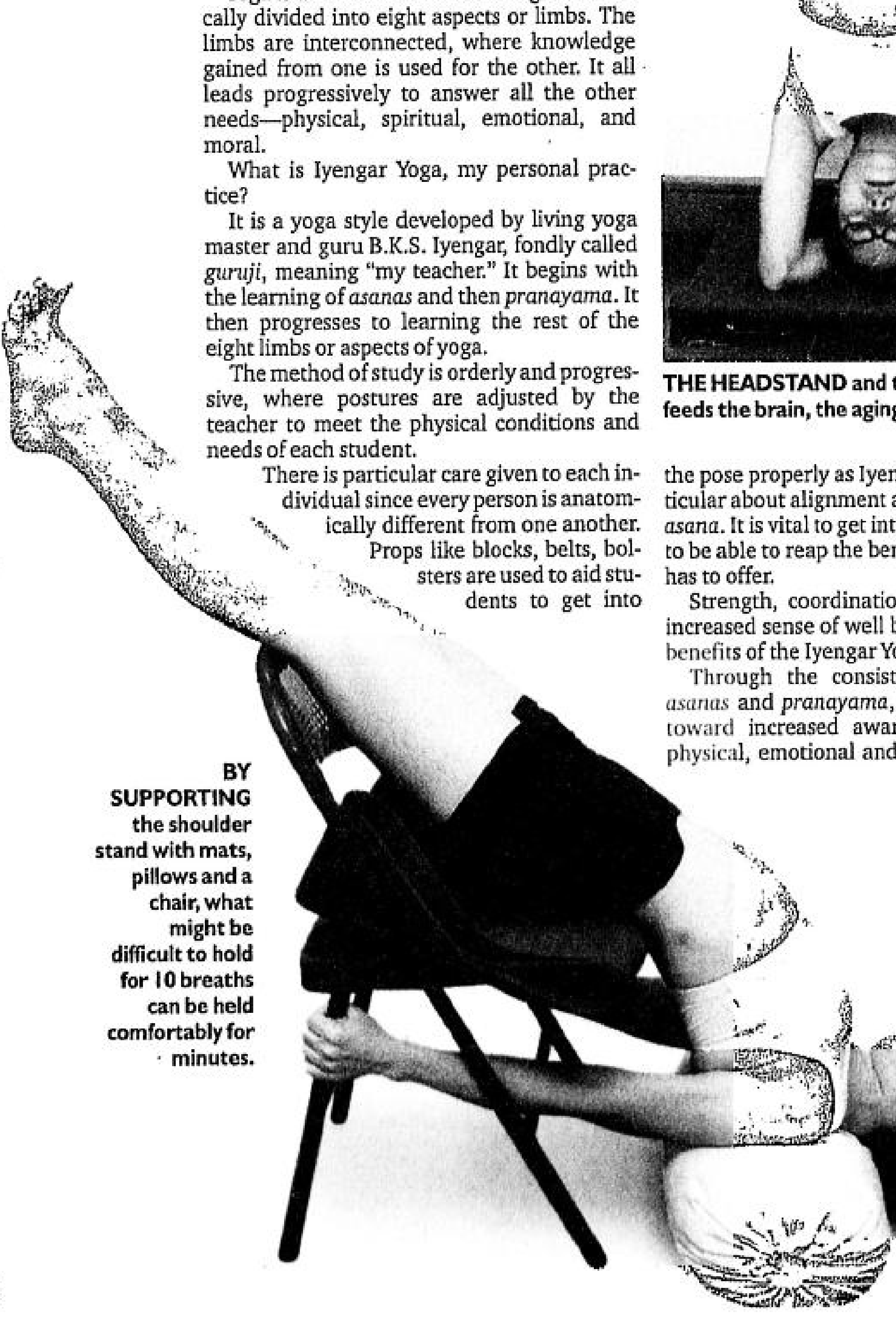
THE PATH/ C3



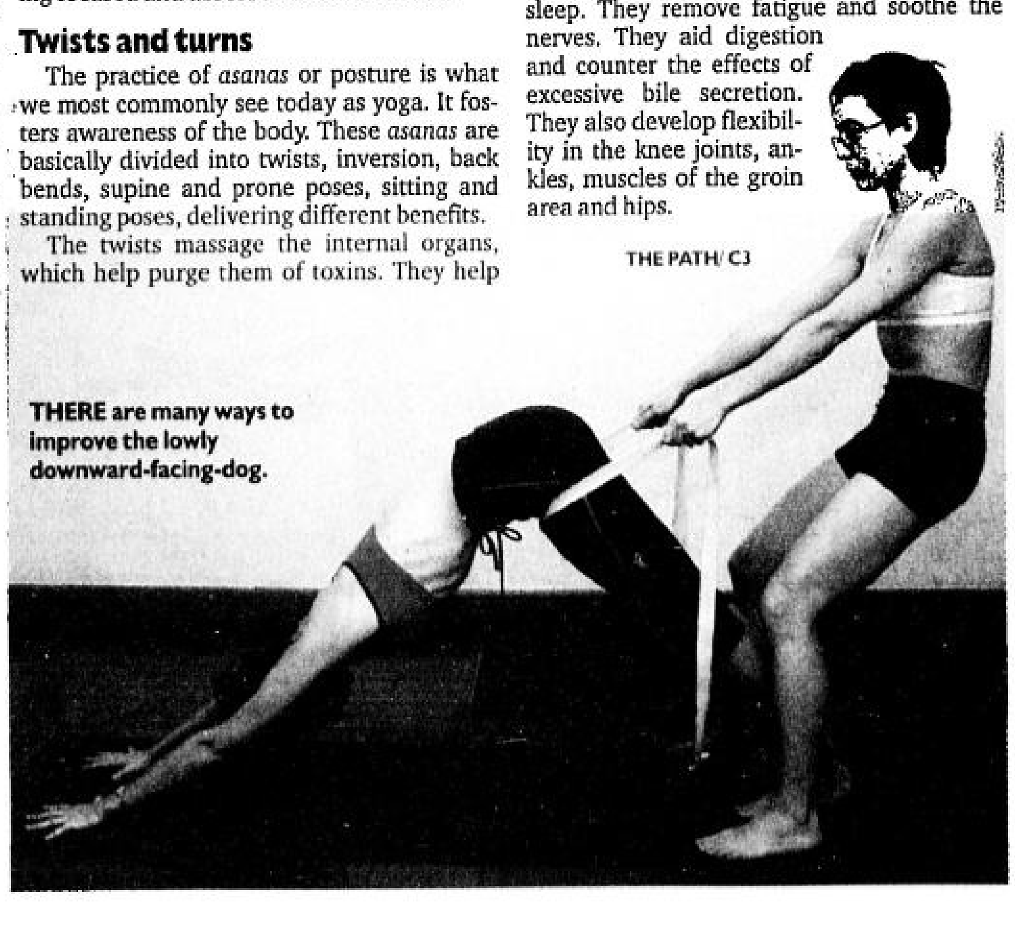
**THE HEADSTAND** and the handstand. In the yogic paradigm, as blood from the entire body feeds the brain, the aging process is reversed.



**NEVER** ashamed to accept a helping hand, Rina is assisted in opening her chest and straightening her arms.

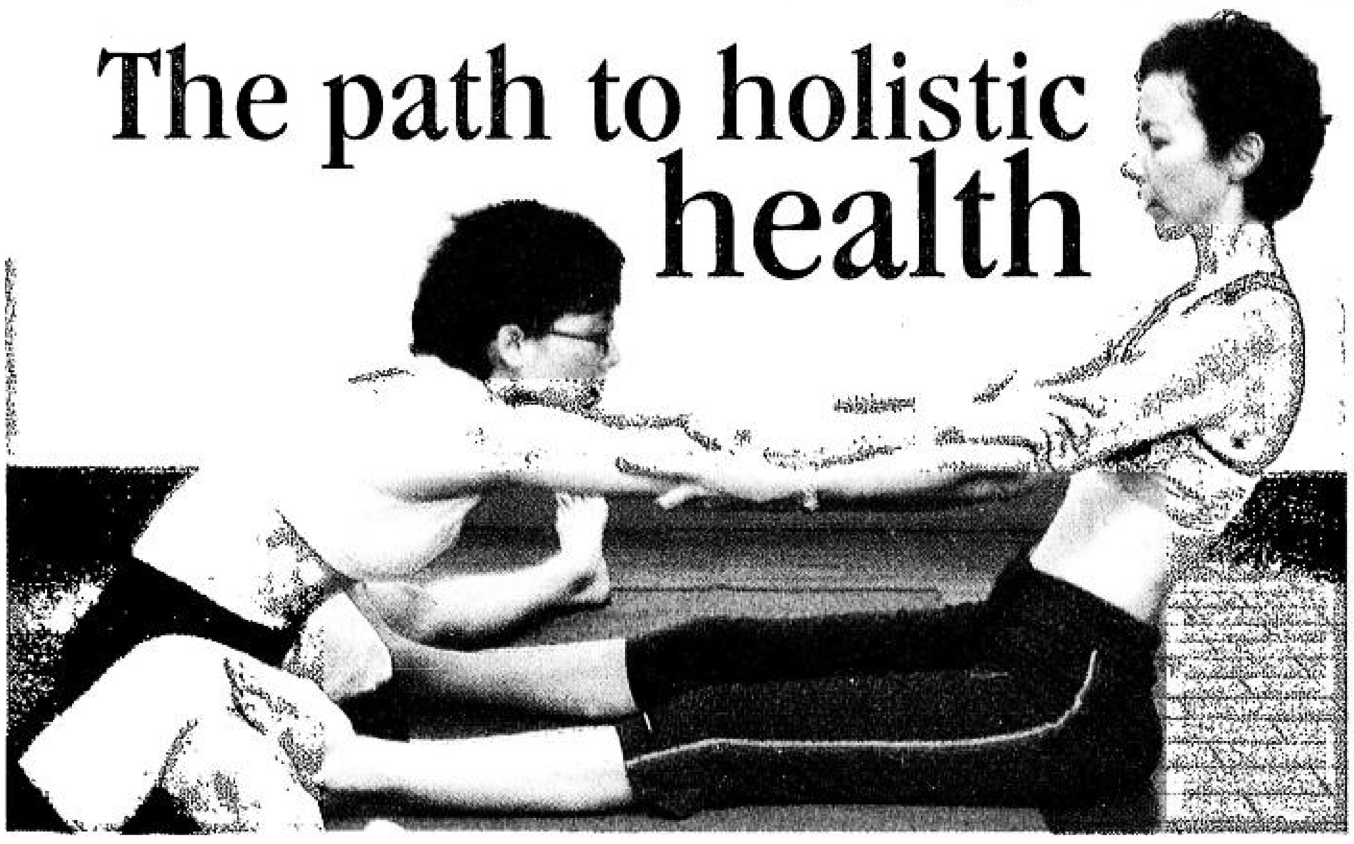


**BY SUPPORTING** the shoulder stand with mats, pillows and a chair, what might be difficult to hold for 10 breaths can be held comfortably for minutes.



**THERE** are many ways to improve the lowly downward-facing-dog.

# The path to holistic health



**PRACTICING** with a partner allows one to stretch comfortably beyond what one can do alone, all the while maintaining a straight back, the first thing to go when pushing too hard.

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From page C2

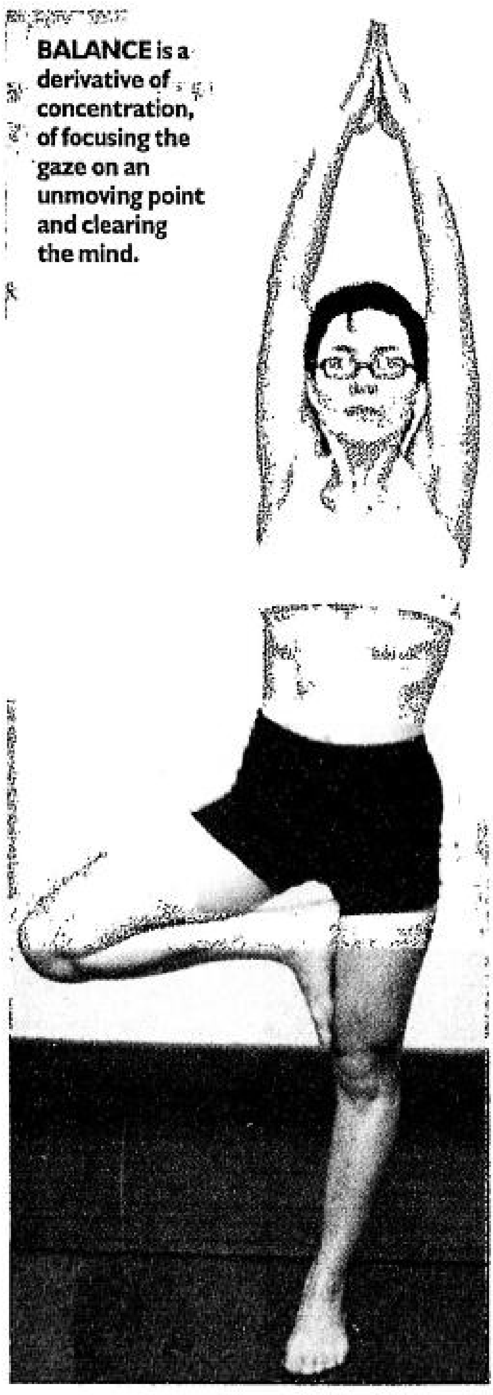
Standing *asanas* strengthen the leg muscles and joints. They strengthen the spine and increase its suppleness. The constant rotation and flexing of the spine muscles and invertebral joints keep them mobile and aligned. The arteries in the legs are stretched, allowing an increased flow of blood to the lower limbs, which improves circulation to the entire body.

Through the position, one is made aware of correct posture and movements.

How long and what must one practice? It is up to you and your body. As you practice yoga, you become very aware of the needs of your body, spirit and mind. One acquires self-discipline. Consciously aware of what your body needs, you listen to it and practice even for just 20 to 30 minutes on a busy day and longer on other days. You learn what specific *asanas* are needed by your personal conditions.

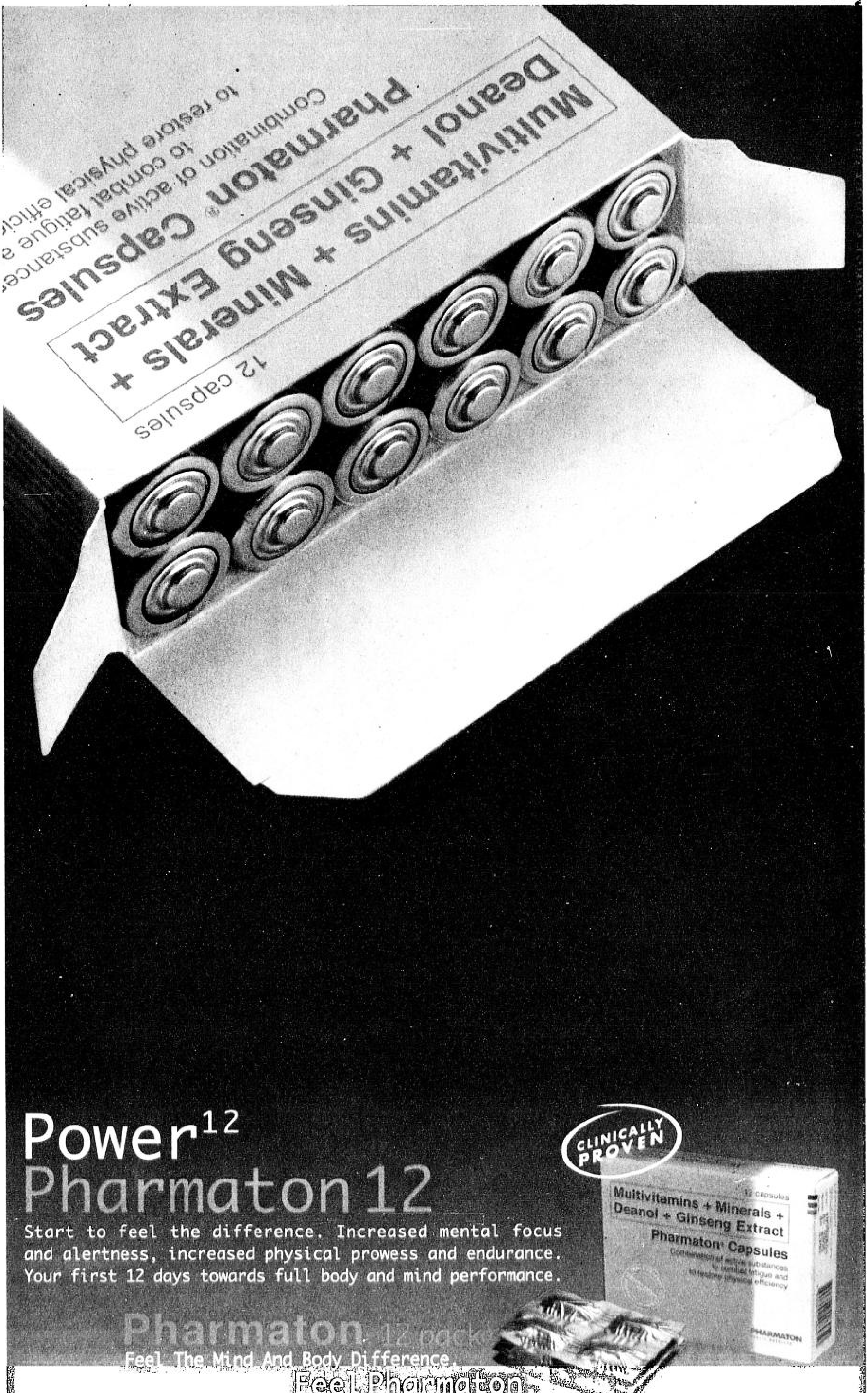
All in all, yoga is about knowing your own body and being comfortable with it. It is all about building a personal relationship with something so important and integral to living.

So like Dorothy, we need not look too far. The answer is within us.



**BALANCE** is a derivative of concentration, of focusing the gaze on an unmoving point and clearing the mind.

**LOSS** of flexibility in the spine is one measure of the aging process. Restoring this flexibility can be seen then as reversing time.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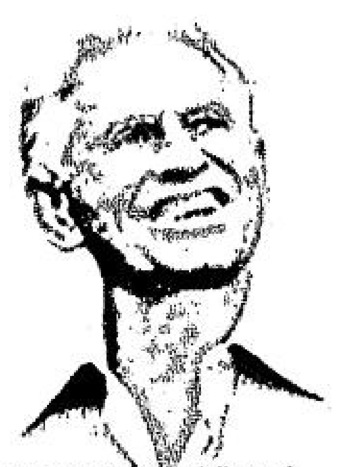
# Fasting your way to good health



**LIFE** extension specialist and fasting proponent Paul Bragg died at 120 in a skiing accident.

Fasting expunges toxins from the body and hastens the body's capacity to heal

TO FAST means to abstain from food. Fasting comes from the old English word "fasten" or "to hold firm." It's a means to finding inner strength through body, mind, and soul cleansing.

Throughout history, the world's greatest philosophers and sages, including Socrates, Plato, Buddha, Gandhi, and not to forget Jesus Christ, have enjoyed fasting and preached its benefits.

I have found that fasting is a simple and easy means of cleansing and restoring health and vitality. It's a method used to flush out the body, purify the system, rejuvenate oneself physically, mentally and spiritually, as well as a way to prevent premature ageing.

When you fast, you flush out deadly toxins from the body such as chemicals and pesticides, crystals from the joints, and stones formed in the gall bladder and kidney.

By fasting we give our bodies a physiological rest by shutting down the systems ordinarily used to masticate, digest, assimilate and eliminate food.

This rest builds vital force by conserving energy, and the more vital force we have, the more toxins are going to be eliminated. This improves the body's capacity to cleanse, purify and rejuvenate itself.

Since fasting requires conservation of energy, it is best to choose a stress-free time when you can rest without having any physical or emotional demands made on you. It would defeat the purpose otherwise.

Depending on the length of time, fasting accomplishes different things.

Beginners usually start with a short 24-36 hour fast. A three-day fast helps the body rid itself of toxins and cleanses the blood. A five-day fast begins the process of healing and rebuilding the immune system. Fasting for 10 days or more can take care of many problems before they arise and help to fight off illness, including the degenerative diseases that have become so common in our chemically polluted environment.

Prepare for the fast by eating only raw vegetables and fruits for a day or two before, and then break out of the fast by doing the same after. This will make the fast less of a shock to the body. While on the fast, consume at least eight glasses of pure water a day, along with freshly-juiced (preferably organically-grown) vegetable and fruit juices, and up to two cups of herbal tea a day.

Dilute all juices with water, adding 1 part water to 3 parts juice. Fasting with the water from fresh young coconuts is also beneficial as it flushes out the kidneys. Lemon juice (adding the juice of a lemon to a cup of warm water) is the best to use during a fast. Leafy green vegetable juice is an excellent detoxifier. Avoid all juices made with sweeteners and other additives. Fasting with pure water alone can achieve great results, but this is best saved for experienced fasters, or done under the supervision of a health professional.

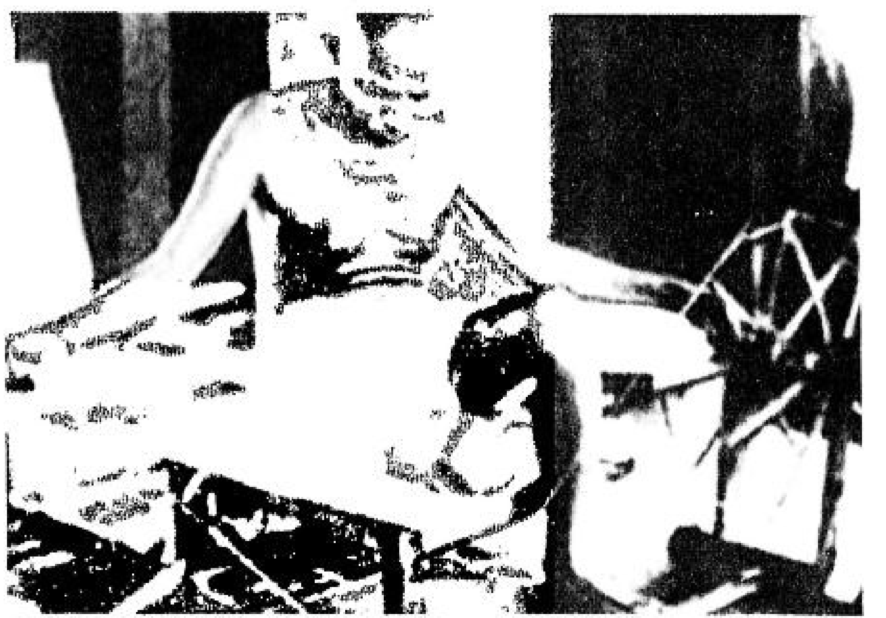
During a long fast, it is normal to experience periods of discomfort. According to Steve Meyerowitz in his book, "Juice Fasting and Detoxification," these are also referred to as healing crises since they represent a climax of detoxification and a catharsis or cleaning event. They may arrive as often as every 10-14 days. Symptoms of a healing event include rashes, acne, weakness, dizziness, hot flashes, fatigue, bronchitis, asthma, headache, faintness, fever, diarrhea, muscle aches, bad breath, stuffed nose, runny nose, irregular heartbeat and irregular menstruation.

Fasting is great, but not necessarily for everyone. You should not fast if you are pregnant, nursing, hypoglycemic, diabetic, critically ill, on long term medication, underweight, have tuberculosis, advanced heart disease and kidney dysfunction.

While there may be exceptions to the above, consult a health professional if you are uncertain.

Professional supervision should be mandatory before undertaking a fast with any of the above conditions.

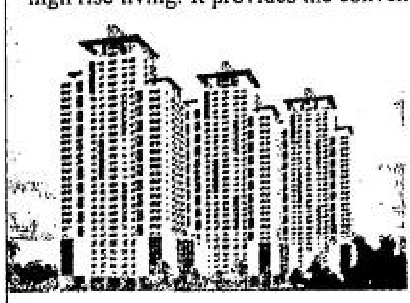
*Rosanna Escudero*



**GANDHI** used fasting not only as a curative treatment but also as a political weapon.

*Location, location, location.*

Strategically situated at the corner of Ayala Avenue and Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue (Buendia), The Columns, Ayala Avenue, Community Innovations, Inc.'s newest development, redefines high rise living. It provides the convenience and prestige of city life, and is within walking distance to the business, commercial and entertainment hubs of Makati's central business district.



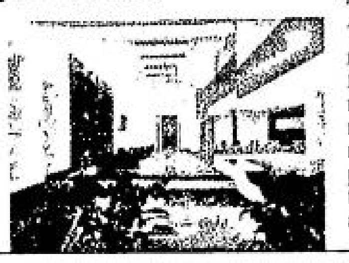
The ideal first home of the young urban achievers who want to *live a few steps from everything*.

*Garden in the city.* At the Columns, Ayala Avenue, nature communes with urban living. Its design creates an open-space environment and relaxing surroundings. The interplay of greens and Zen gardens that adorn the Grand Lobbies of each tower give a soothing experience to residents and guests alike.

*Three towers of power.* Three towers on a continuous podium level define The Columns, Ayala Avenue. Each tower will have 30 storeys, 23 of which will be residential. The five-level upper ground parking is shielded from the outside by an artwork that gives the building prominence along Ayala and Buendia Avenues.

The layout maximizes the advantages of its prominent site, which allows more units to be facing the morning sun while avoiding the afternoon heat. Natural lighting and good ventilation are also taken into consideration in each of the studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom residential units - a rare feature among residential condominiums.

To create a more open feel for space, select units even have bay windows; others have balconies overlooking the city. The top three levels will house very private units, which have breath-taking scenery.



The Recreational Club, which stretches across the 7th floor podium of all three towers, provides residents a source of recreation and an ideal venue for socializing with other residents. It has a 25-meter adults' lap pool, kids' pool, spacious function rooms with spill-over area, a gym, game room with mini-theater, daycare center with indoor and outdoor play area, communal wine cellar, jogging path and transient rooms for the residents' guests - almost like a hotel!

Salcedo Village
Legaspi Village
San Lorenzo Village

To make it even more fascinating, the ground floor will have landscaped plazas, a row of cafes and al fresco dining spots, indeed the perfect setting for unwinding after a day's busy schedule.

*Live a few steps from everything.* If you're young, dynamic, and energetic, The Columns, Ayala Avenue lets you live a few steps from everything.

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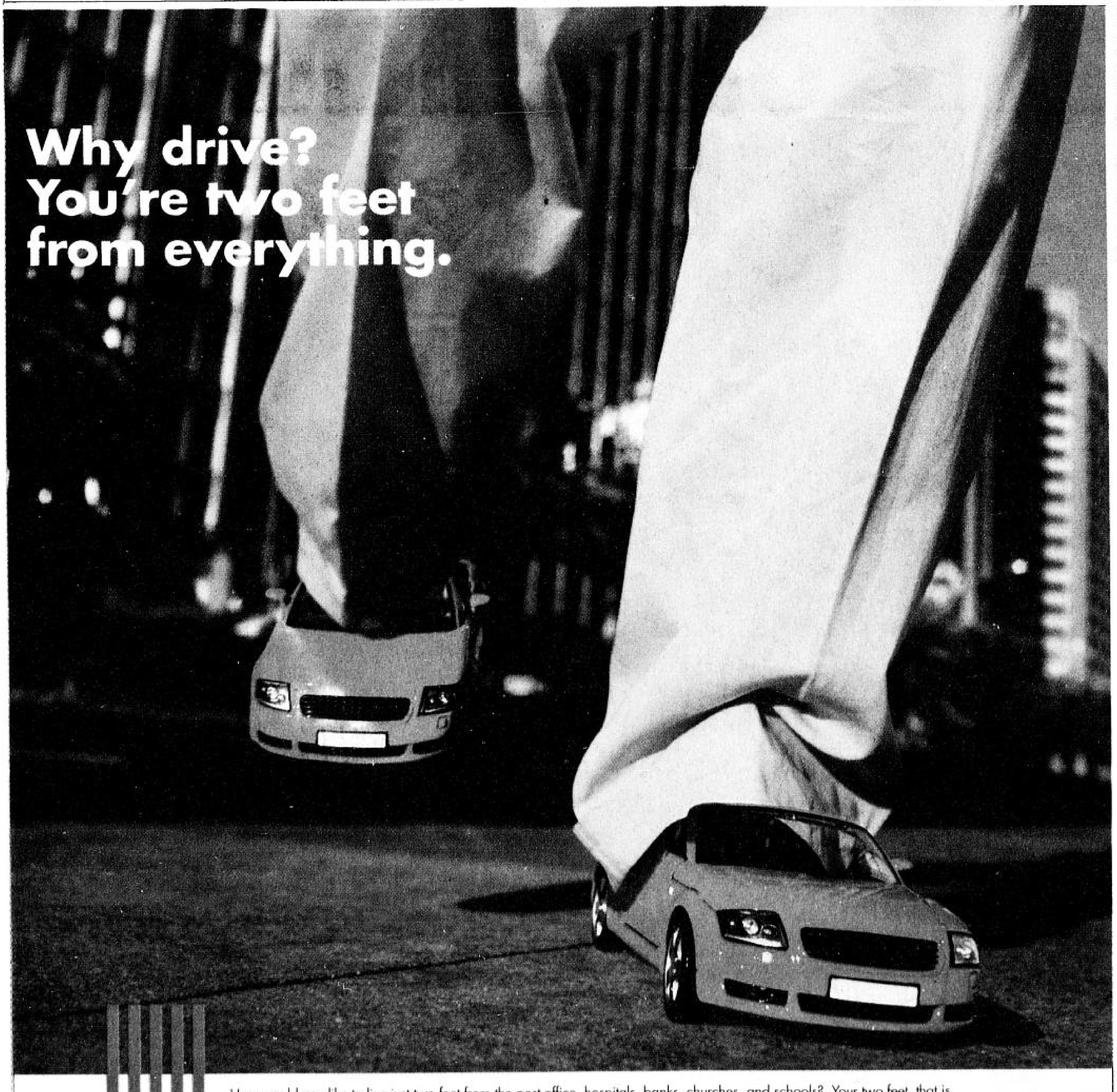

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How would you like to live just two feet from the post office, hospitals, banks, churches, and schools? Your two feet, that is.

THE COLUMNS, Ayala Avenue will soon rise right at the corner of Ayala and Sen. Gil Puyat Avenues. A short walk, a mere hop, to all those and many other places. Imagine living where the only vehicle you really need to get around are the ones you were born with. And maybe a nice pair of shoes.

THE COLUMNS, Ayala Avenue is the ideal address for young, urban achievers who want to be near it all!

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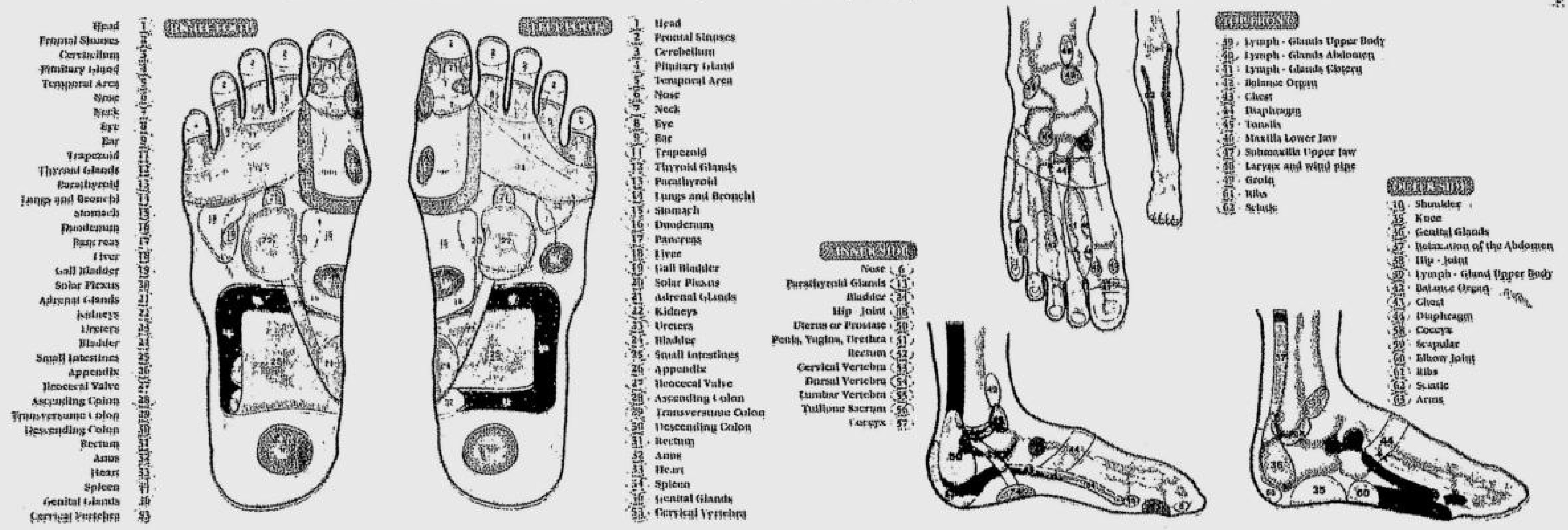
Head
Frontal Sinuses
Cerebellum
Pituitary Gland
Temporal Area
Nose
Neck
Eye
Ear
Trapezoid
Thyroid Glands
Parathyroid
Lungs and Bronchi
Stomach
Duodenum
Pancreas
Liver
Gall Bladder
Solar Plexus
Adrenal Glands
Kidneys
Ureters
Bladder
Small Intestines
Appendix
Ileocecal Valve
Ascending Colon
Transversume Colon
Descending Colon
Rectum
Anus
Heart
Spleen
Genital Glands
Cervical Vertebra
1 Head
2 Frontal Sinuses
3 Cerebellum
4 Pituitary Gland
5 Temporal Area
6 Nose
7 Neck
8 Eye
9 Ear
11 Trapezoid
12 Thyroid Glands
13 Parathyroid
14 Lungs and Bronchi
15 Stomach
16 Duodenum
17 Pancreas
18 Liver
19 Gall Bladder
20 Solar Plexus
21 Adrenal Glands
22 Kidneys
23 Ureters
24 Bladder
25 Small Intestines
26 Appendix
27 Ileocecal Valve
28 Ascending Colon
29 Transversume Colon
30 Descending Colon
31 Rectum
32 Anus
33 Heart
34 Spleen
36 Genital Glands
53 Cervical Vertebra
INNER SIDE
Nose 6
Parathyroid Glands 13
Bladder 24
Hip Joint 38
Uterus or Prostate 50
Penis, Vagina, Urethra 51
Rectum 52
Cervical Vertebra 53
Dorsal Vertebra 54
Lumbar Vertebra 55
Tailbone Sacrum 56
Coccyx 57
39 Lymph - Glands Upper Body
40 Lymph - Glands Abdomen
41 Lymph - Glands Chest
42 Balance Organ
43 Chest
44 Diaphragm
45 Tonsils
46 Maxilla Lower Jaw
47 Submaxilla Upper Jaw
48 Larynx and wind pipe
49 Groin
61 Ribs
62 Sciatic
OUTER SIDE
10 Shoulder
35 Knee
36 Genital Glands
37 Relaxation of the Abdomen
38 Hip - Joint
39 Lymph - Gland Upper Body
42 Balance Organ
43 Chest
44 Diaphragm
58 Coccyx
59 Scapular
60 Elbow Joint
61 Ribs
62 Sciatic
63 Arms

# Happy feet

## If you go the extra mile, reflexology may become the ultimate health experience

**By Amanda Carpo**

THE KEY to a man's heart is through his stomach. The key to a woman's heart lies lower. No, lower than that.

In fact, all the way down to her feet, which, according to reflexologists, are the windows to the soul and the main conduits to the reflex zones of the body.

My translation: happy feet, happy me.

In the skilled hands of the reflexologist lies the ability to remove toxins, activate cells, normalize the function of organs and stimulate balance in the body.

My own reflexologist, Beth, tells me of her ability not only to alleviate aches and pains, but remove kidney stones, locate tumors, cure migraines and enhance fertility. Surgery-free.

The tales of her trade include one account where she was responsible directly or indirectly (after a few sessions) for solving the problems of a childless couple.

A single session is insufficient to appreciate the true benefits of reflexology. Several sessions may be in order for a gradual process to balance the body.

Any pain felt signals imbalance or the presence of toxins in the corresponding body part or organ. Part of the novelty of reflexology is that it can be diagnostic.

During my session with Beth, I was thrilled to have felt no pain (therefore being in perfect balance) whereas my cousin, a complete vegetarian and yoga fanatic, was skeptical to learn that the pain in his foot indicated he might have ingested virulent "toxins."

We joked he was surreptitiously consuming Big Macs, and I told him he should drink more Diet Coke, like me.

But my cousin's pain was small potatoes compared to the experience of my sister's boyfriend, who perspired in anguish and moaned through clenched teeth as Beth poked at his feet with her stick. The diagnosis was that he had consumed many toxins.

At Greenhills' Harmony Therapy Center, there is a long line for the diagnostic skills of Singaporean Desmond Sim. He explains that we are able to tell imbalances in the organs because "the natural gravitational pull causes energy currents to flow from the organs of our body to our foot reflex zones, which consist of a rich blood supply of 7,200 blood vessels, sweat glands, ligaments, muscles and 26 bones."

"When there is an imbalance in the function of an organ, our feet transmit such information. Stimulating the reflex zones in the feet helps to activate body cells, normalize the function of body organs, stimulate circulation and balance the internal secretory organs."

Traditional western medicine seems to have no patience for reflexology and its claims. After first-hand experience, I am inclined to think otherwise.

Few things compare to how enjoyable the reflexology experience is, and the benefits go past the ankles. If this is a step on the path to wellness, I am more than willing to take it.

*Harmony Therapy Centre can be reached at 7051649 or 7051215.*

**PLEASURABLE** pain is the gift these therapists give their customers in "harmonious" surroundings.

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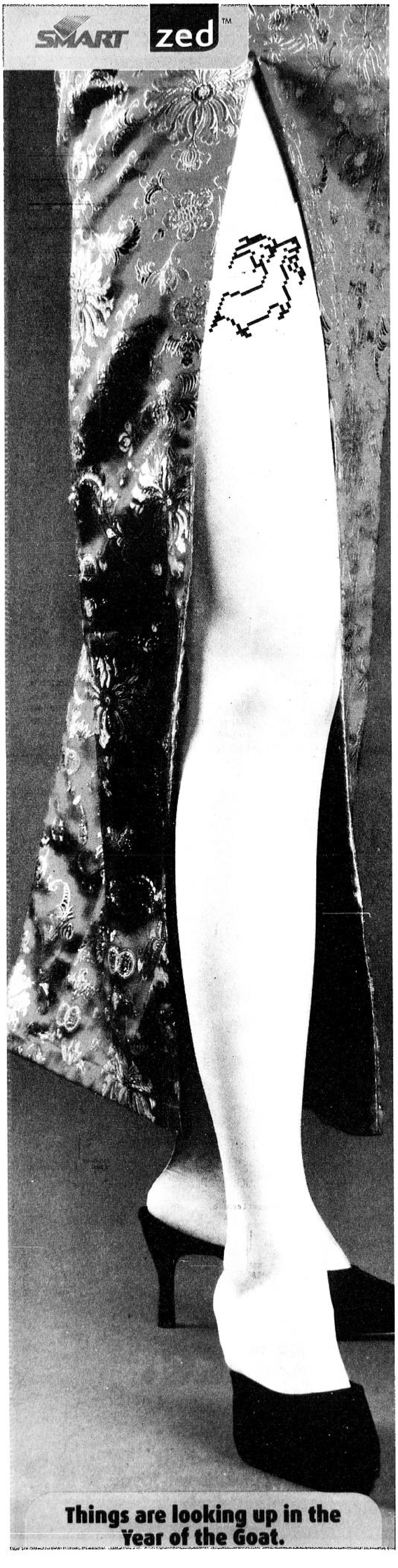
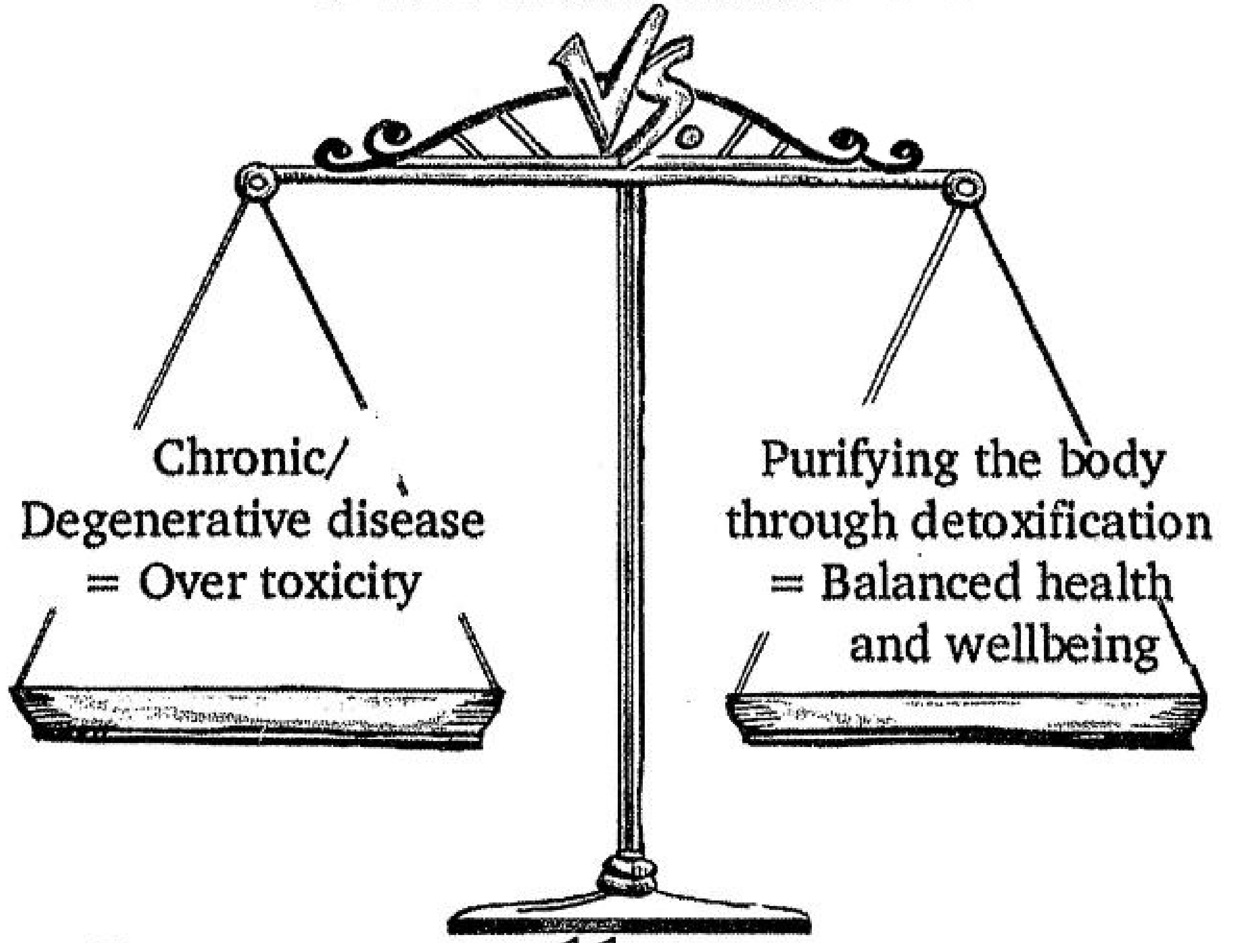



Vs
Chronic/ Degenerative disease = Over toxicity
Purifying the body through detoxification = Balanced health and wellbeing

# Say goodbye to toxic living

By Rosanna Escudero

WE live in a toxic world. Cancer-causing chemicals called carcinogens are absorbed into our bodies from the air we breathe and the food we consume—food that either grows out of substandard minerally depleted soil, is fished out of contaminated waters, or subject to heavy processing, and chemically laced with pesticides, antibiotics, food additives and preservatives.

Toxins are found even in the cosmetics and skin-care products that we use on a daily basis.

The question is—are we even aware that we subject ourselves to this massive toxic bath every day?

## Read the label

How many of us actually take the time to check the ingredients? Let's take a few revealing bits of information about some chemicals found in the cosmetics and skin-care products arena.

According to doctors and medical researchers in the United States, Japan, Switzerland and Germany, two common ingredients found in ordinary shampoos and skin-care products may be linked to cataracts, cancer, eye damage and even blindness in young children.

David L. Kern, editor of New Health & Longevity, says the greatest concern of many scientists is sodium lauryl sulfate (SLS), a detergent found in about 90 percent of shampoos (including baby shampoos).

The Journal of the American College of Toxicology says SLS is an anionic surfactant (a substance that lowers the surface tension in liquids) that is used in cosmetics and industrial chemicals as a cleansing agent.

According to absorption, metabolism and excretion studies, SLS has a degenerative effect on the cell membranes because of its protein-denaturing properties. High levels of skin penetration may occur even with low use.

"There is an immediate concern relating to the penetration of these chemicals into the eye and other tissues," says the Medical College of Georgia (MCG). "This is especially important in infants."

Clinical studies conducted at the MCG show that SLS

- penetrates the eyes and skin on contact, and maintains residual levels in the eyes, brain, heart, lungs and liver, causing major problems in these areas.
- keeps young eyes from developing properly and hinders proper structural formation. Children under 6 are especially vulnerable to improper eye development.
- causes cataracts in adults and delays the healing of wounds on the surface of the cornea.
- causes skin to flake and to separate, causing substantial roughness on the skin.
- is a caustic (scathing) cleanser that corrodes the hair follicle and impairs its ability to grow hair.
- is routinely used in clinical studies to deliberately irritate the skin so that the effects of other substances can be tested.

> The first step toward saving yourself from chemical suicide is to read the labels of the food and other products you consume

This chemical has been shown to damage proteins in the eyes of young animals. Still other researches have indicated SLS may be damaging to the immune system, especially of the skin. Skin layers could separate and inflame due to SLS's denaturing properties on protein.

A single drop of SLS stays in the brain and body for five days. This means that if you wash your child's hair more than once a week with shampoo containing SLS, your child has constant levels of this harmful chemical in his eyes, brain and body all the time.

Unfortunately, SLS is as common as it is dangerous. It's even in your toothpaste, soap and other cleansers.

In the industrial world, SLS is used as garage-floor cleaners, engine degreasers and car-wash soaps.

A higher foaming and slightly less irritating modification of SLS can be manufactured by ethoxtylation of the surfactant.

The modified compound becomes known as sodium lauryl ether sulfate. The cosmetic name is sodium lareath sulfate (SLES). Used as a wetting agent in the textile industry, it is irritating to the scalp and may actually cause hair loss.

Other than water, propylene glycol (a derivative of petroleum) is the most common moisture-carrying vehicle in many beauty creams, cleansers, makeup and even mayonnaise. It is also found in children's personal-care products such as baby wipes and lotions.

Propylene glycol is an ideal component for many topical preparations as it is a superior spreader and emollient, and has often been used as a replacement for glycerin in dermatologic and cosmetic preparations. The low cost of propylene glycol provides an added advantage.

Serious health concerns are being raised over the use of this synthetic petroleum product, as it has severe adverse health effects. The American Academy of Dermatology (AAD) published a clinical review in January 1991 that showed propylene glycol to cause a significant number of allergic reactions. The chemical is also a primary irritant to the skin even in low levels of concentration, according to the AAD.

The AAD also said that there had been increased use of propylene glycol in varying concentrations in approximately 55 percent of the topical steroids available.

Propylene glycol can be found in similar percentage of topical antibacterials, antifungals, benzoyl peroxide preparations and emollients.

In scientific and animal studies, it has been shown that propylene glycol causes contact dermatitis (allergic reaction on the skin), kidney damage and liver abnormalities, and damages cell membranes, causing rashes and surface damage to the skin.

In the industrial world, propylene glycol is used as an anti-freezing agent, brake and hydraulic fluid, airplane deicer, and in paint and coatings, floor wax, portable water systems, swimming pools, liquid laundry detergents, pet food and tobacco.

Its use is being reduced. It is being replaced by safer glycols such as butylene and polyethylene glycol.

Many shampoos sold in health food stores, even the ones labeled "all natural," contain SLS or propylene glycol.

## Toxins in water

Among the sources of toxins in water, including drinking water, are:

- human waste that leaks from septic tanks
- toxic metals from ground water
- toxic metals from water pipes
- bacteria and viruses
- toxic waste from industry and agriculture
- animal waste in private and commercial farming areas
- radioactive minerals
- toxic by-products from the chlorine that disinfects our water supplies.

## Food additives

Although they are listed on labels, food additives can be difficult to understand.

A very common flavor enhancer widely used by many Filipinos, MSG (monosodium glutamate), for instance, often causes mild to severe allergic reactions. But it can be disguised on a food label because it is often contained in other additives, such as hydrolyzed protein.

Other additives that commonly cause toxic reactions include sulfites and tartrazine (yellow dye #5).

## Irradiation

The radiation of food to kill bacteria, insects and parasites, as well as to prolong shelf-life or slow down the ripening of fruits and vegetables, is still a big safety question mark.

Since we don't know yet the long-term effects of eating irradiated food, the safest thing to do is not to buy it.

## Food dyes

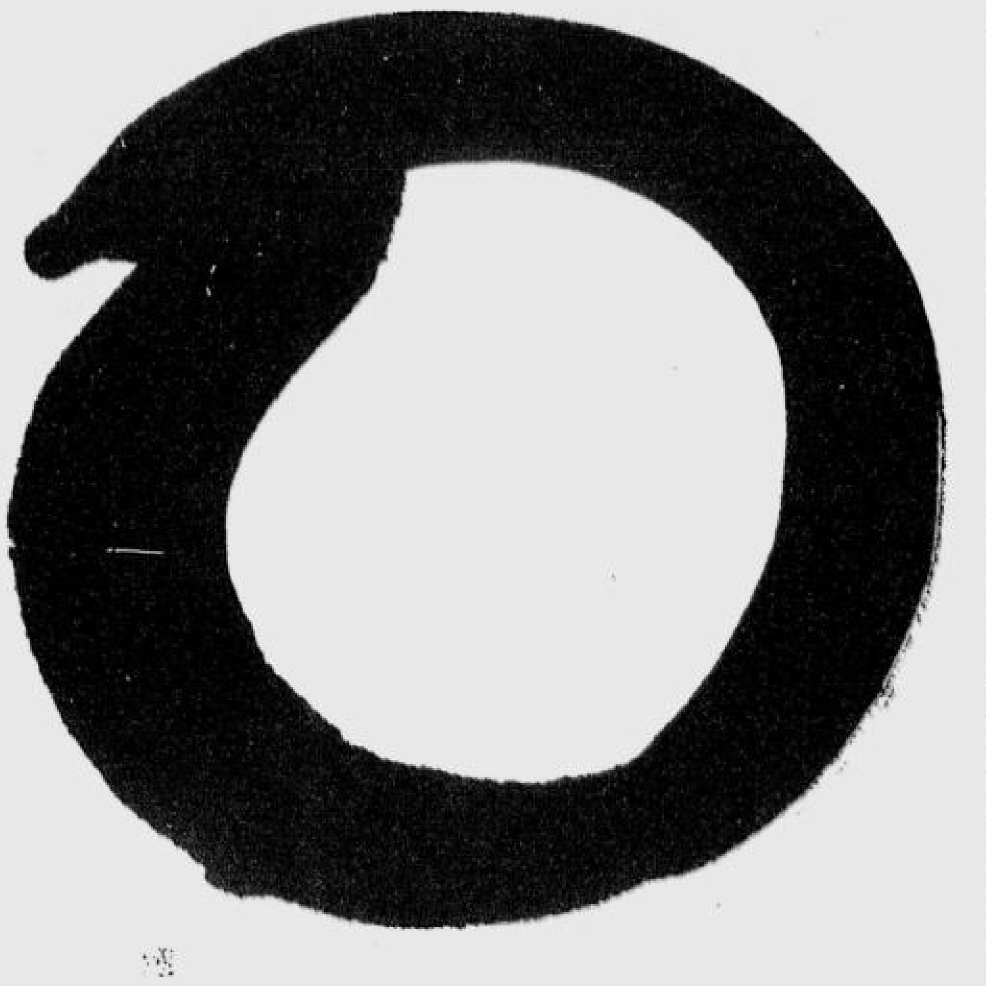
Skip foods with artificial colors because chemical food dyes can damage the immune system and the DNA, increase cancer risk and even speed up the aging process.

## Preservatives

Natural preservatives such as nutrients, citric acid and ascorbic acid (forms of Vitamin C) are safe, but chemical preservatives can be a problem.

The aluminum compound alum, for example, which is used to put the crunch in pickled products, accumulates in the body and has toxic effects. So do other aluminum-based ingredients, including the aluminum in baking powder and aluminum foil.

SAY/ C9



# The focused art of 'just that'

## Zen is a grand awakening through concentration

By Ging Gonzalez

One day the abbot called for a chessboard and asked one of the monks to play with a young man who was born into a wealthy home and, never having had to work, did not know much except how to play chess.

"Bring me my sword," the abbot said, "for whoever loses this game loses his life."

As the match began the young man found himself extremely nervous. He made an early mistake in the monk's favor. Eventually, however, he began concentrating all his attention on the match. The world disappeared. The chessboard was all there was.

The monk now made an error, and the young man saw the chance to press his position. He made one strong move, and then another. Soon he saw he was likely to win.

At that point, the young man looked at the monk. For the first time he noticed the intelligence in the monk's face, the kindness and austerity.

This monk had spent years of discipline seeking the truth, the young man thought. Why should he lose his life so that I, who have wasted mine, might be spared?

The young man deliberately made an error, shifting the game in the monk's favor.

The abbot, who had been watching closely, thereupon upset the chessboard.

"You have learned Zen in this short time," the abbot told the young man. "The two most important attributes of Zen are complete attention and compassion, both of which became yours today."

A good story indeed. Complete attention and compassion—each gives rise to the other. But, in truth, the gifts of Zen usually come much more slowly, and as one might well conclude, with a great deal more work.

### Sitting art

The word Zen comes from the Sanskrit *dhyana*, meaning meditation or contemplation. The central practice of Zen is thus *zazen*, or sitting meditation (often simply called "sitting"). One sits in the lotus or half-lotus position, or on one's knees, bringing body and mind to silence by focusing on one's breath.

Slowly, one forgets oneself; only the breathing remains. In the silence that descends lie clarity and lightness of spirit.

Eventually and ideally, one begins to bring the same focus to all one's actions and undertakings—to work and play, to eating and drinking, to chatting with friends, to watching a child or the sky.

The absorption of sitting gives rise to *joriki*, the power of attention. *Joriki* is an ability to concentrate, resulting in calmness, efficacy and appropriateness of action and intuition.

By concentration, one sheds habitual distractions and anxieties. One becomes freer to see and to appreciate, understand and even love.

In her book "Light Sitting in Light," Sr. Elaine MacInnes, a Canadian Catholic nun who founded the Zen Center for Oriental Spirituality in the Philippines, defines Zen as "experiencing fully and at all times."

She says there are three aims of Zen: *joriki*, *kensho* or *satori* (enlightenment) and the personalization of *satori*.

*Satori* is the Zen experience of enlightenment. It is an awakening, a falling into light. It is akin to a mystical experience.

How does one come to satori? In Zen, there is only one way—through sitting. The Zen tradition requires a teacher who has spent years in the practice and is qualified under an established line. Preferably, one also sits with a group for mutual encouragement and support.

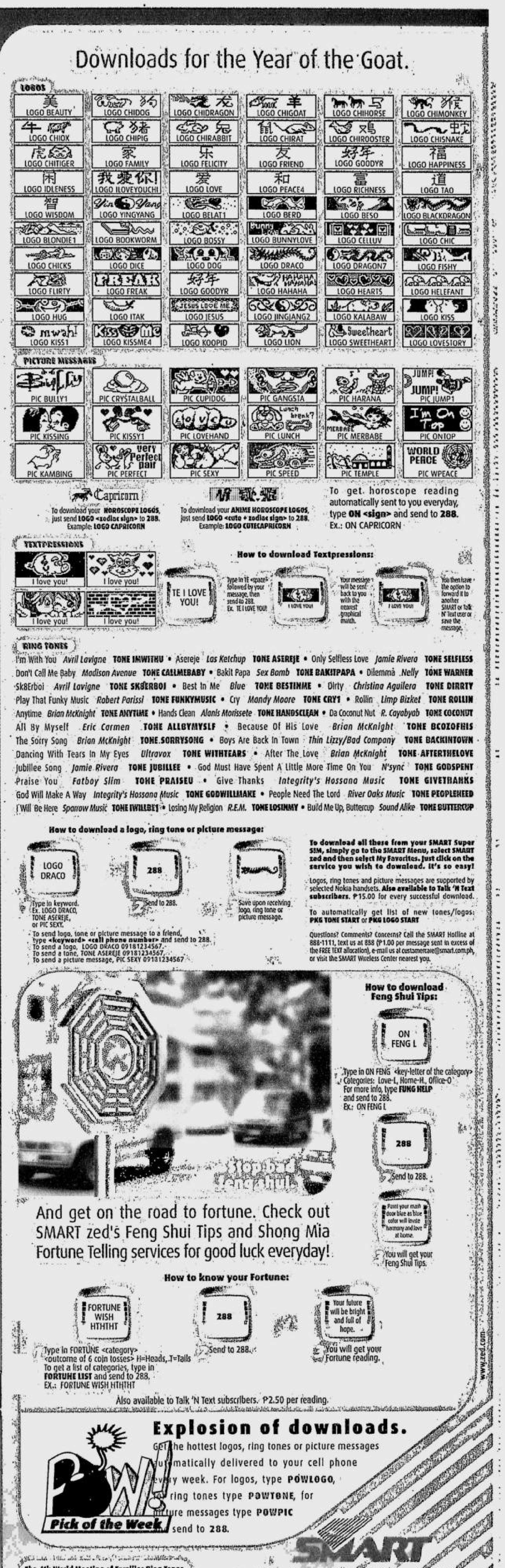
*Satori*, though of great significance, is however not the be-all and end-all of Zen. In fact, it needs to be nurtured and expanded through practice and application in life.

Equally important is Zen's third aim: the personalization of the awakening, its manifestation and embodiment in one's actions. Perhaps unsurprisingly, this consists of a life of compassion, in accordance with one's own time, place, and circumstances.

The minimalism of the Zen arts thus springs from a seeing, from according attention that is almost sacred in its respect and intensity.

There is "just that, just that," as the Zen masters say—just that tree, just that mountain, just that call of the crickets, the universe at play, the grandeur of God.

*The Zen Center for Oriental Spirituality in Marikina conducts regular orientation sessions. "Light Sitting in Light" by Elaine MacInnes is also available for purchase.*



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# *The labyrinth of life*

**By Lucy Jackson Fernandez**

THE FLOW of life isn't always easy. The journey of days passes through familiar and unfamiliar terrain. Looking out at life, one can smile at pleasant vistas, safe and comfortable. Then the rapids come—turbulent times, rocks, eddies, whirlpools and yes, waterfalls. Falls large enough to crush you.

We all know trials and shakeups are there for us to learn and to grow. Crisis is really an opportunity for fresh beginnings. But it's difficult to trust the process of life when you are struggling with it. How do you come through? How do you navigate through the turbulence?

Prayer and meditation greatly increase our capacity to respond to any given situation. It is said that when we pray, we talk to God, and when we meditate, we listen to God.

Sometimes, it's not easy to pray or meditate. However, when we make space through stillness and quietness, light enters, and we gain clarity and perspective.

Recently, I attended an art workshop at the Maryridge Good Shepherd Convent in Tagaytay. I found that in the restful sanctuary is a wonderful and simple walk where one can pray, meditate and just open oneself to inspiration. It is called the Sacred Labyrinth Walk.

I was to learn later that there used to be a sacred walk in Chartres Cathedral. It was used for substitute pilgrimages when trips to the Holy Land became dangerous.

On one of the workshop breaks, I went out to the garden to savor the view of Taal volcano and Taal lake. I marveled at the flowers radiating purity, free and joyous expressions of beauty, nurtured by loving and pious hands. What a haven.

My eyes were then drawn to the lower level garden, where a person was walking, slowly but intently, around a path distinguished by small bushes and plants. Something was happening.

Curious, I took the steps down. I realized the path had a circular rhythm that wound, spiraled and looped to the center, toward a bench where one could sit and contemplate. This was not a maze. The woman finished the walk and smiled. I took off my shoes and started mine. I prayed and asked for help.

But the current of events kept me swirling. I freed my mind and walked, slowly, enjoying the earth, cool beneath my feet. The trappings and tangles of emotions seemed to slip away, my heart lifted as I continued on the path, a journey inner and outer to the center.

Reaching the core, the still point, I sat for a while and felt great peace. Slowly treading my way out again, I felt buoyant, joyous, full and vital.

Life felt good. I felt happy to be where I was and for what had brought me to this point. Renewed and refreshed and with a grateful prayer, I finished the walk, smiled and felt the joy and freedom as strong as the flowers that flourished there.

The Maryridge convent explains the Labyrinth:

"The Sacred Path, the Labyrinth, is a path of prayer for all people seeking the divine, regardless of the tradition in which one stands. Walking the path with an open mind and heart touches our sorrows and releases our joys. It calls people in the throes of life's transitions. For those who are confused and disturbed, the Labyrinth offers to unwind whatever is blocking the flow of energy. No one understands the Labyrinth's soothing effect, but one theory is that since its design echoes the spiral and repetitive patterns found in nature, walking into it brings us into harmony with a larger order. Walking the path brings a refreshing and healing retune to wholeness through the rhythm of walking and breathing. Labyrinths are based on principles of sacred geometry."

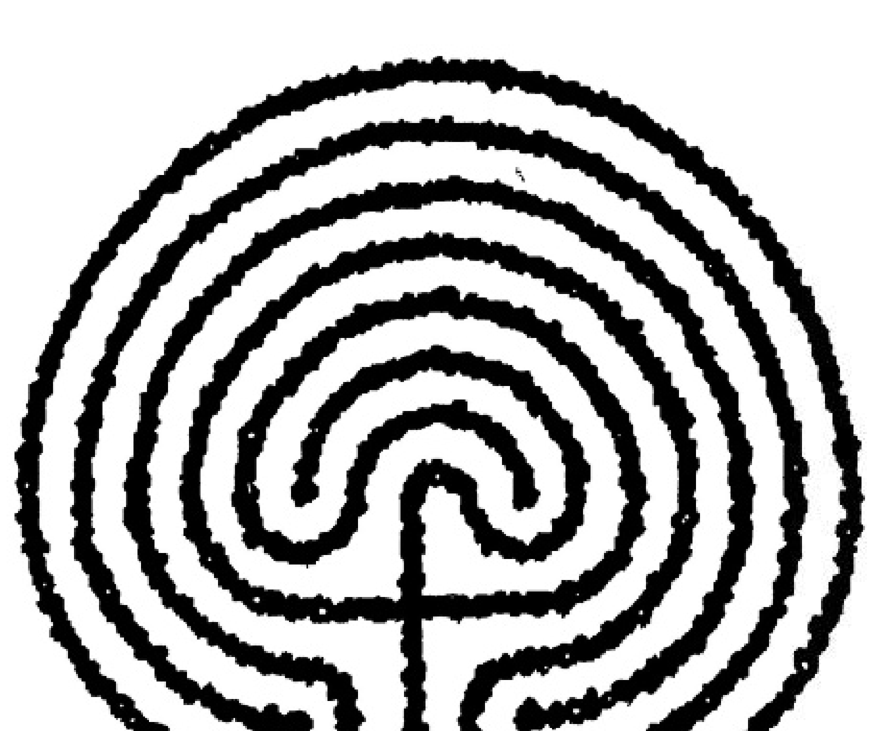
The Maryridge Good Shepherd Convent is a private place for healing and renewal. It is not usually open to the public. The Sacred Labyrinth is one of the charms within its hallowed grounds. Its energy and strength owes to those who live there, the work they do and the purity and beauty of the place. Such places are protected and empowered by the prayers that permeate the life of nuns. This is the power that touches us so deeply. Thank you, Sisters.

*The author is a yoga instructor.*

In a Tagaytay convent is a meditation maze where one stumbles upon the core of the soul

## More About Labyrinths!

"To enter the labyrinth is to
choose to walk a sacred path."
--Dr. Lauren Artress



Seven Circuit Labyrinth

# Say goodbye to toxic living

From page C6

You can avoid all this aluminum by buying brands of food and hygiene products that are free of aluminum and other chemical preservatives.

High residual levels of aluminum has been found to increase the risk of developing Alzheimer's disease.

## Artificial sweeteners

Saccharine and aspartame (Nutrasweet) have toxic effects.

Even the natural sweetener sorbitol, if ingested in large amounts, can cause digestive distress and diarrhea.

Use products sweetened by fruit juices, maple syrup and other organics.

## Toxins in cookware

Bleached paper products (like coffee filters) have toxic dioxin residue.

Aluminum cookware and food storage containers and bowls insinuate aluminum into your food, particularly acidic food.

Aluminum on the outside bottom of cookware is all right, since it doesn't come in contact with food.

Microwaving food in plastic containers or in plastic wrap can result in plastic molecules contaminating your food.

Stainless-steel cookware contains nickel, which often produces an allergic reaction.

Do not cook acidic foods in stainless steel; the process releases the nickel from the cookware into your food. It's best to use glass cookware or cast iron.

The amount of iron released from cast-iron cookware is not easily absorbed by your body, so unless you have a very high iron level, you will not suffer any toxic or unhealthy effects from using cast iron.

An accurate way of checking the residual levels of heavy metals in the body is by hair analysis or a urine challenge test. Consult your holistic nutritionist or health-care practitioner, or call Dr. Rosario Austria at the G.F. Health Clinic, tel. 724-3242 or 412-2583.

## Pesticides and fungicides

Organically grown or biodynamically grown procedures are safe from contamination by pesticides and fungicides.

## Toxins in food

The animal meat on your plate might have been given lots of chemicals, hormones and antibiotics. It might have also been exposed to environmental toxins and natural and chemical toxins in their feed.

By eating meat, you and I ingest concentrated amounts of hormones, antibiotics and other agents that do harm to our own systems.

Cooking all meat and poultry well, until it is no longer pink inside, will kill viruses and bacteria, but will not remove toxins and other kinds of contamination. You can, however, buy meat and poultry that have been raised completely free of chemicals, drugs and hormones.

Fish and seafood are regularly contaminated by pesticide and sewage run-off, oftentimes containing high traces of mercury. It is best to avoid raw fish and seafood, which can also transmit diseases, such as hepatitis.

Salmonella and other bacteria routinely contaminate eggs and poultry, so they need to be very well cooked to kill all bacteria.

Milk and milk products contain the toxic residue of the many drugs and hormones given regularly to dairy cows. Pasteurization does not rid the milk or milk products of these toxins. Try rice milk as a substitute for animal milk.

*If someone eats what is useful for his health and avoids other things that may shorten his life, then he is a man of wisdom and self-control.*—Paracelus (1490-1541), physician and alchemist who established the role of chemistry in medicine

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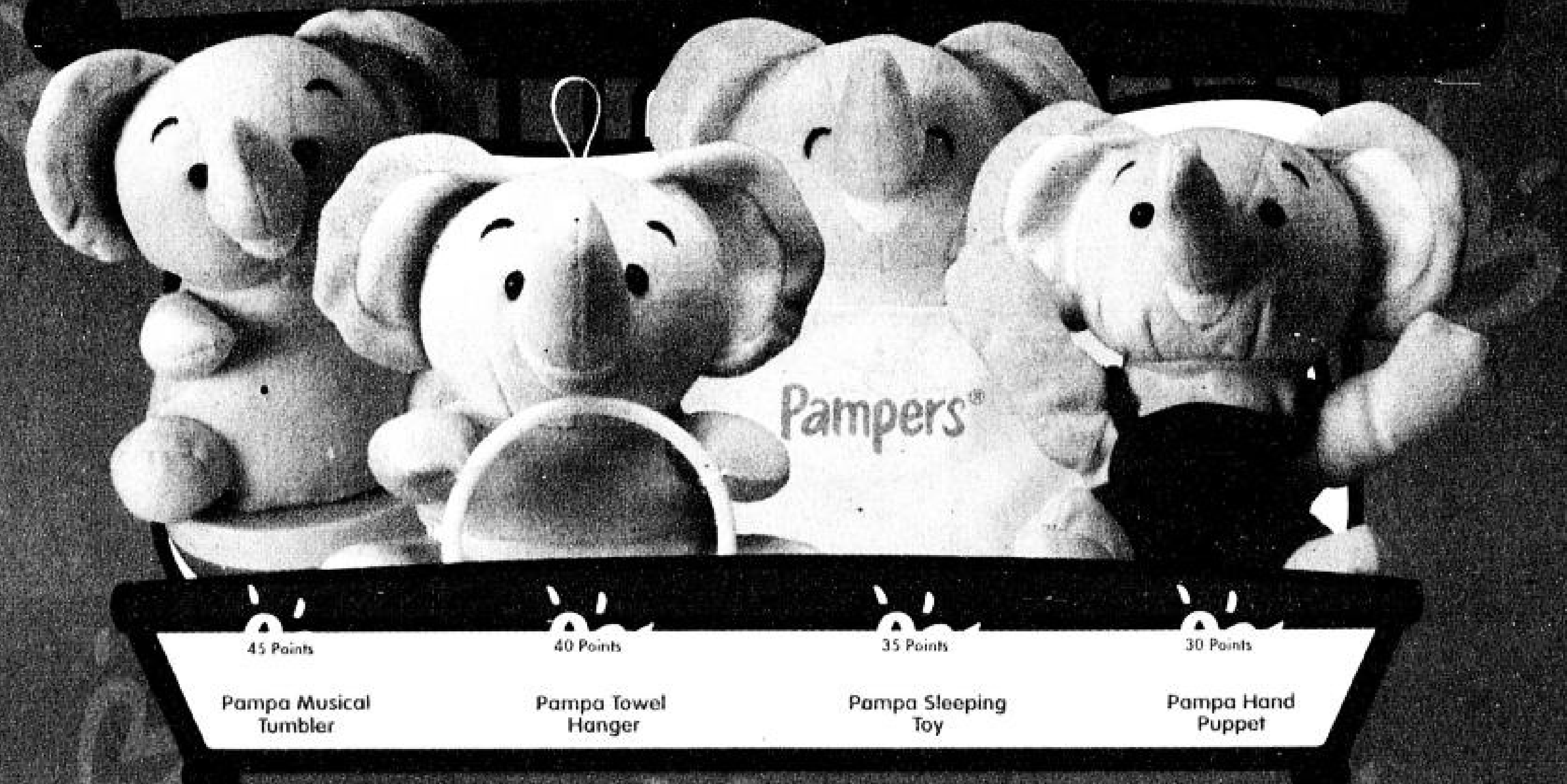

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Your Pampa toy/s will be delivered to you by LBC for free within four (4) weeks from the day your application or entry is received

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Promo period is from January 1, 2003 up to February 28, 2003

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No 4962, Series of 2002

# *One McKinley Place begins 2003 with enchanting voice, new moon*

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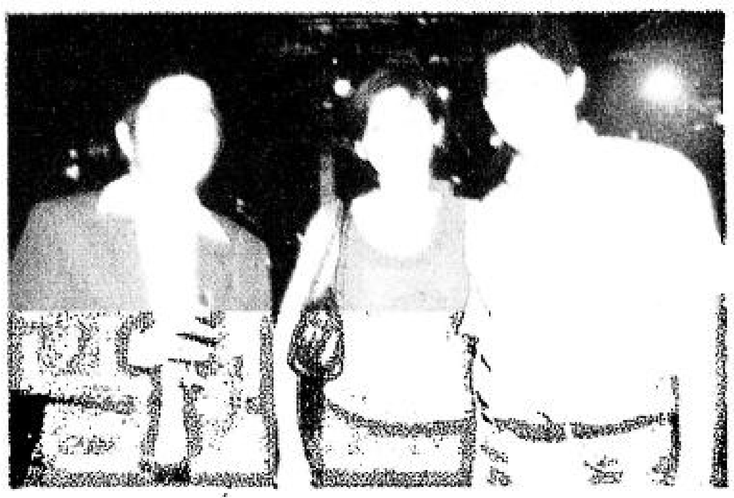

**RALLY Martinez, Kaye Tinga and Taguig Mayor Sigfried Tinga.**

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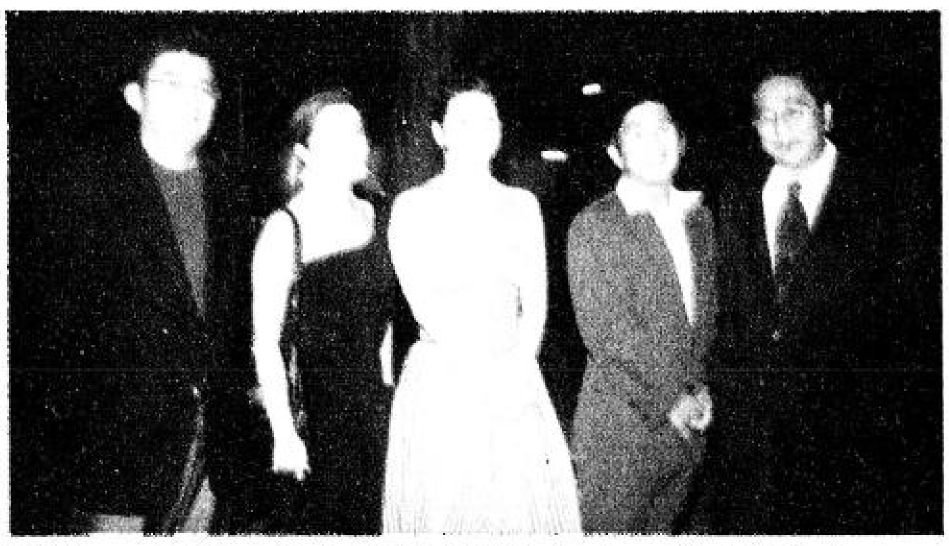
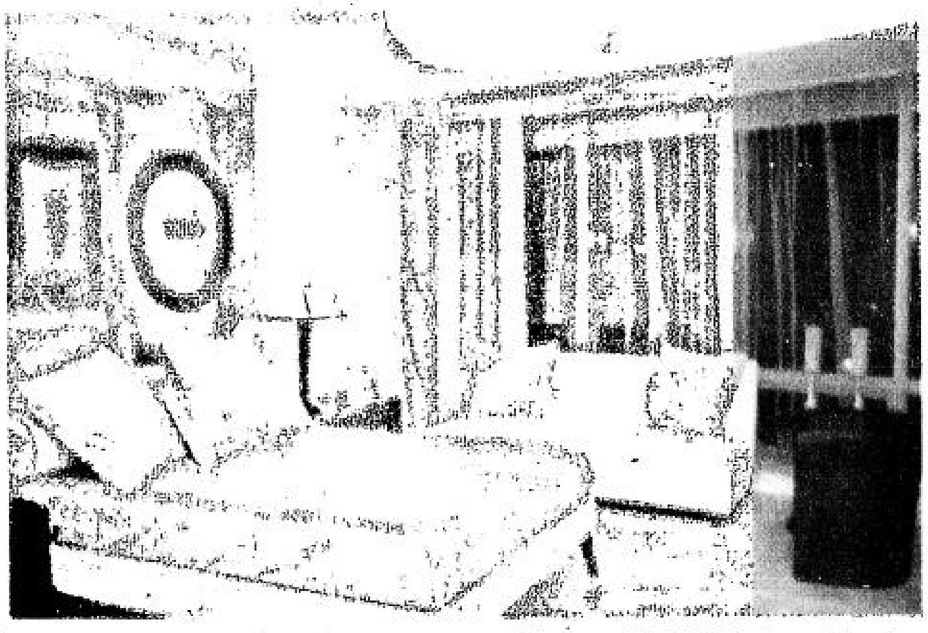
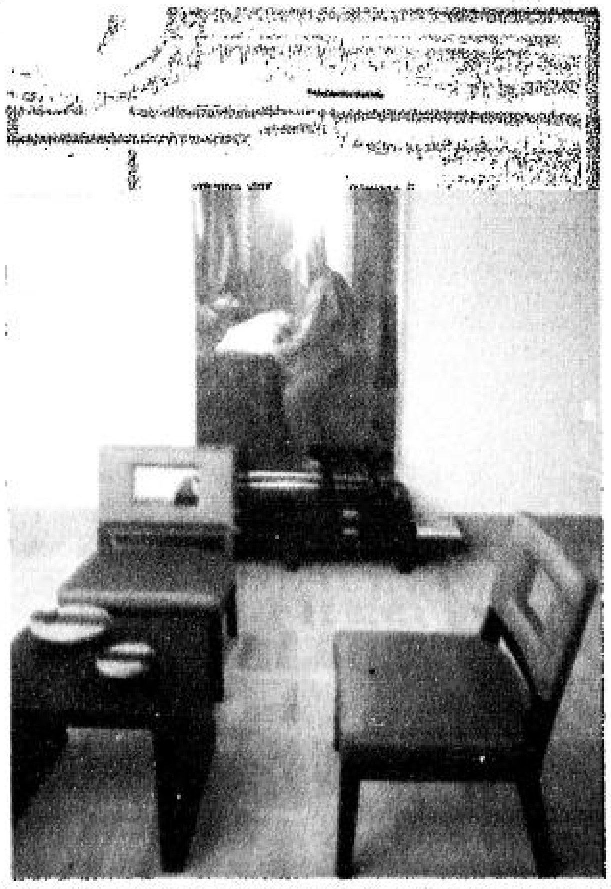


**JOEY Concepcion III, president and CEO of RFM, Marissa Concepcion, Rally Martinez, Philtown president and OMP treasurer, and Sergio Ortiz-Luis Jr., Export Bank chair pose with Regine Velasquez.**

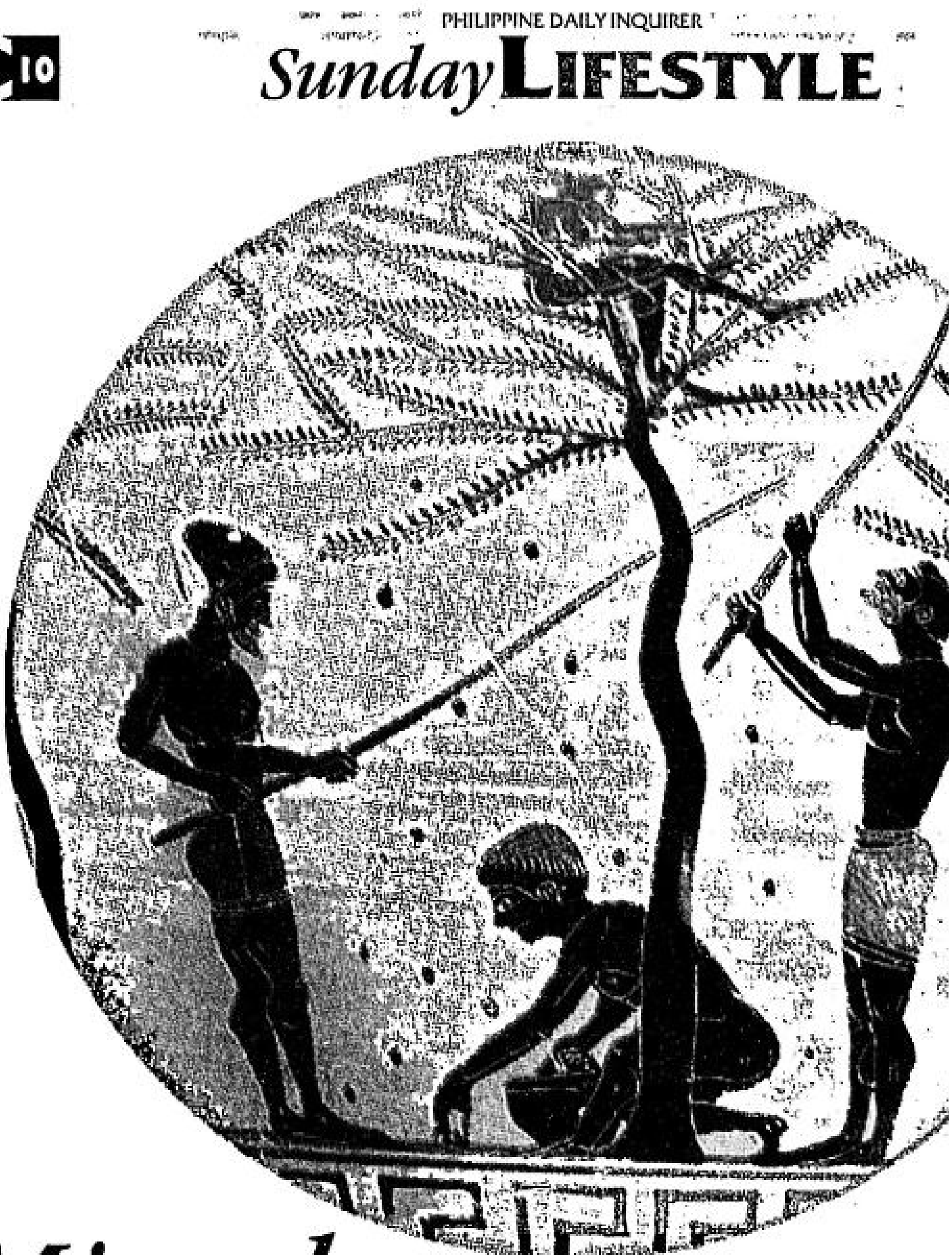


**BEDROOM of a model unit.**



**SALA of a model unit.**

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA



**GREEK olive harvest on a 530 BC aphora from Attica**

# *Miracle* oil

From page C12

mix together equal parts of olive oil and sea salt. Massage on the body and along the rough areas of the feet and elbows. Rinse off, and repeat when necessary.

**To clear acne.** If you suffer from acne, mixing 250 ml (8 fl oz) of olive oil with 10 drops of lavender oil will create the perfect natural remedy. Apply this to the problem area for that clearer complexion.

**For weak nails.** Soak the nails for five minutes in warm olive oil or gently rub olive oil onto your nails and cuticles. This softens the cuticles and aids brittle nails to become more resilient.

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**Hot oil hair treatment.** Massage olive oil into your hair, then steam the hair by wrapping a towel dipped in hot water. Wash your hair after two hours, and allow it to dry naturally. Get rid of dry ends this way; it's an inexpensive and easy alternative to full-blown "hot oil" treatments!

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### More tips

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**For high blood pressure.** Boil 24 olive leaves in 250 ml (8 fl oz) of water for 15 minutes. Drink the liquid morning and night for two weeks.

**To help lower cholesterol levels.** Use olive oil instead of butter, mayonnaise, or vegetable oil in preparing salads, sandwiches, and foods that require cooking oil.

**To relieve upset stomach and stimulate digestion.** Drink 1 tbsp of olive oil before eating.

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### Homemade strawberry moisturizer

1 tbsp each of extra virgin olive and extra virgin coconut oils
1 tbsp of fresh mashed strawberries
1-2 drops of vitamin E oil (optional)

Mix all the ingredients together in a small bowl. Store in the fridge for 4-5 days in a covered jar.

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In olive oil, we hit a rich mine of anti-ageing and other health benefits

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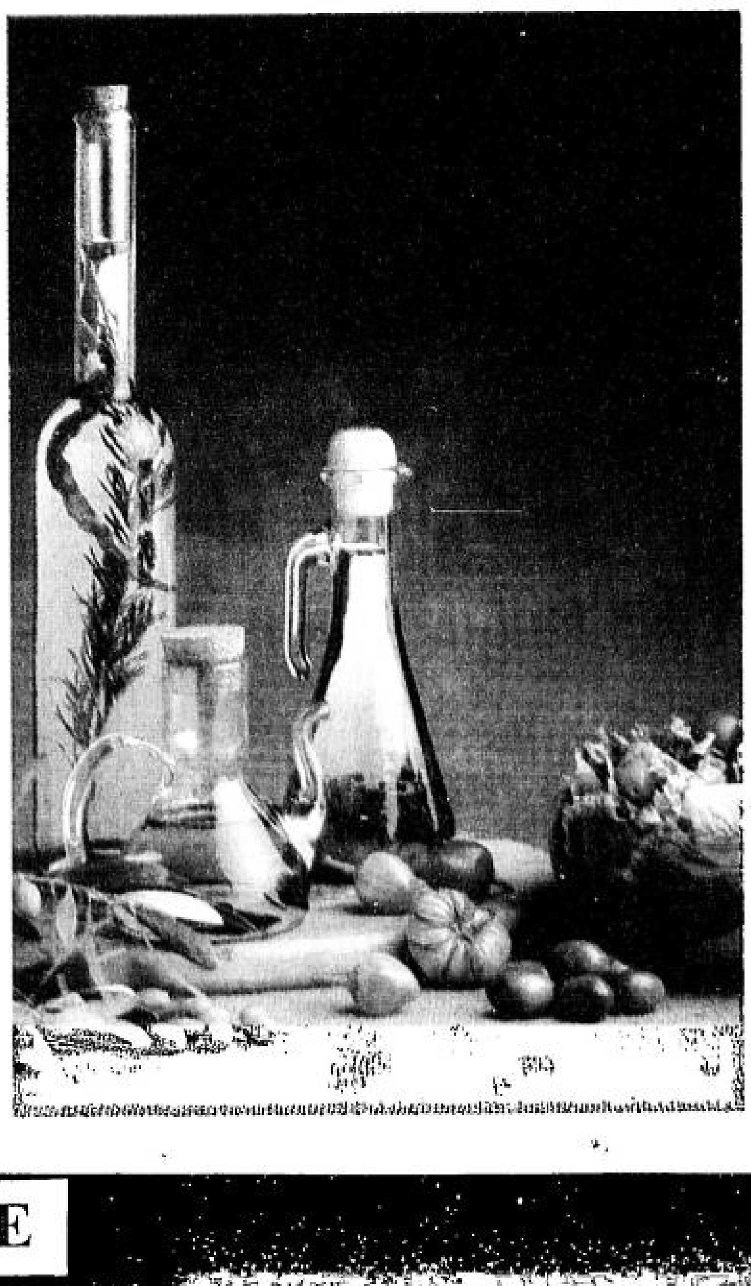

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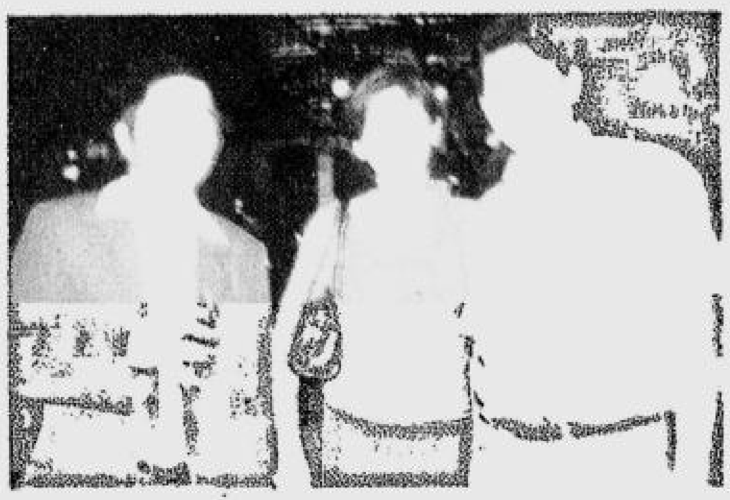

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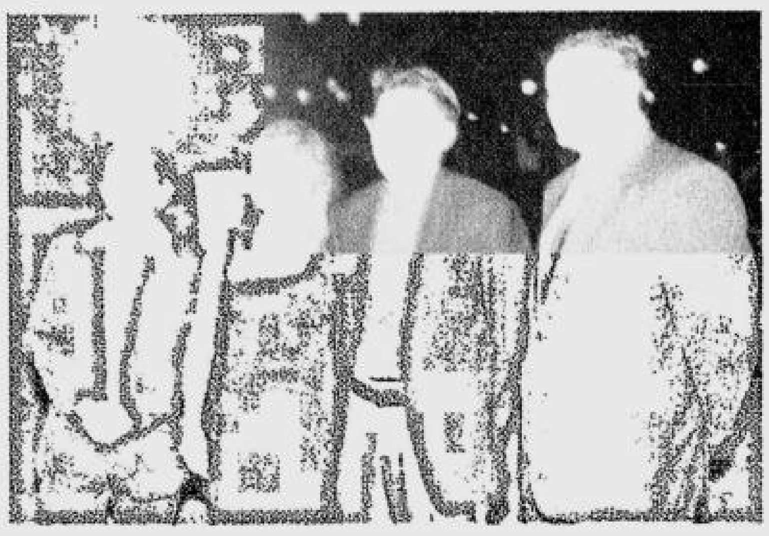

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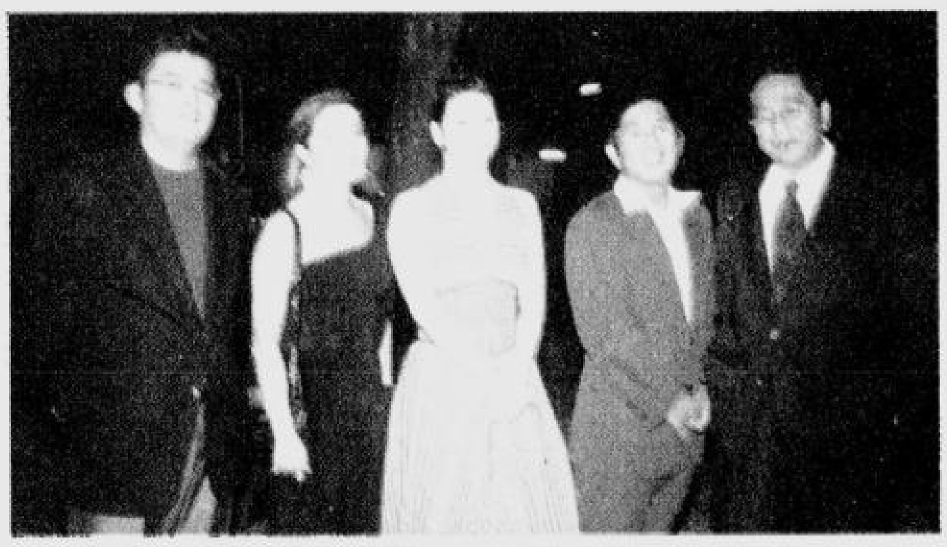

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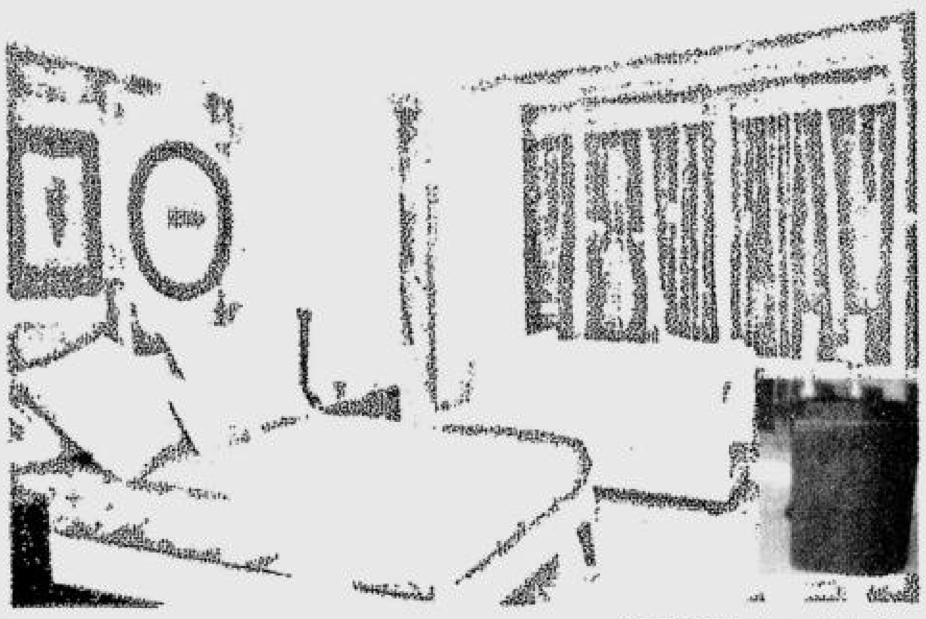

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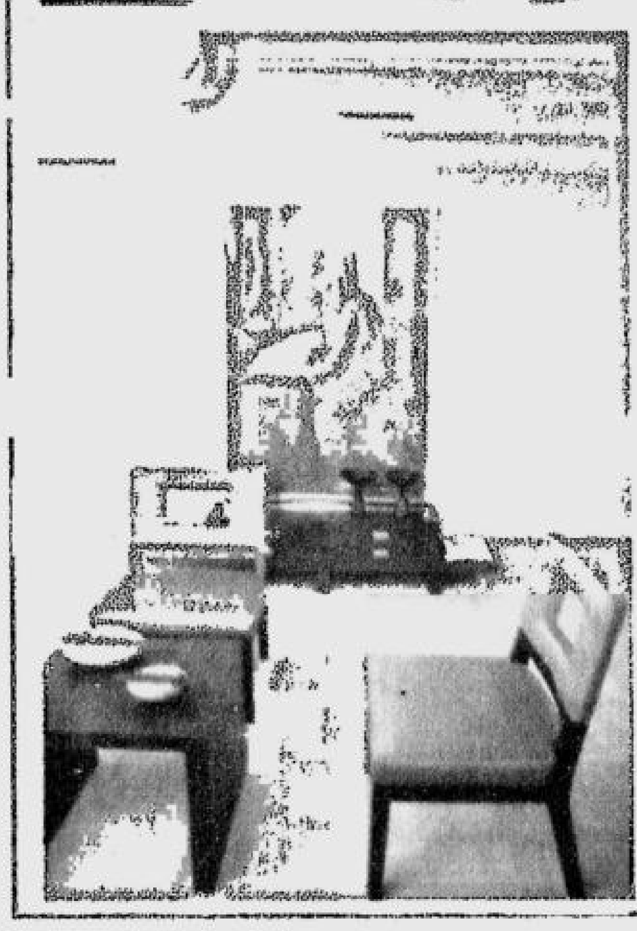

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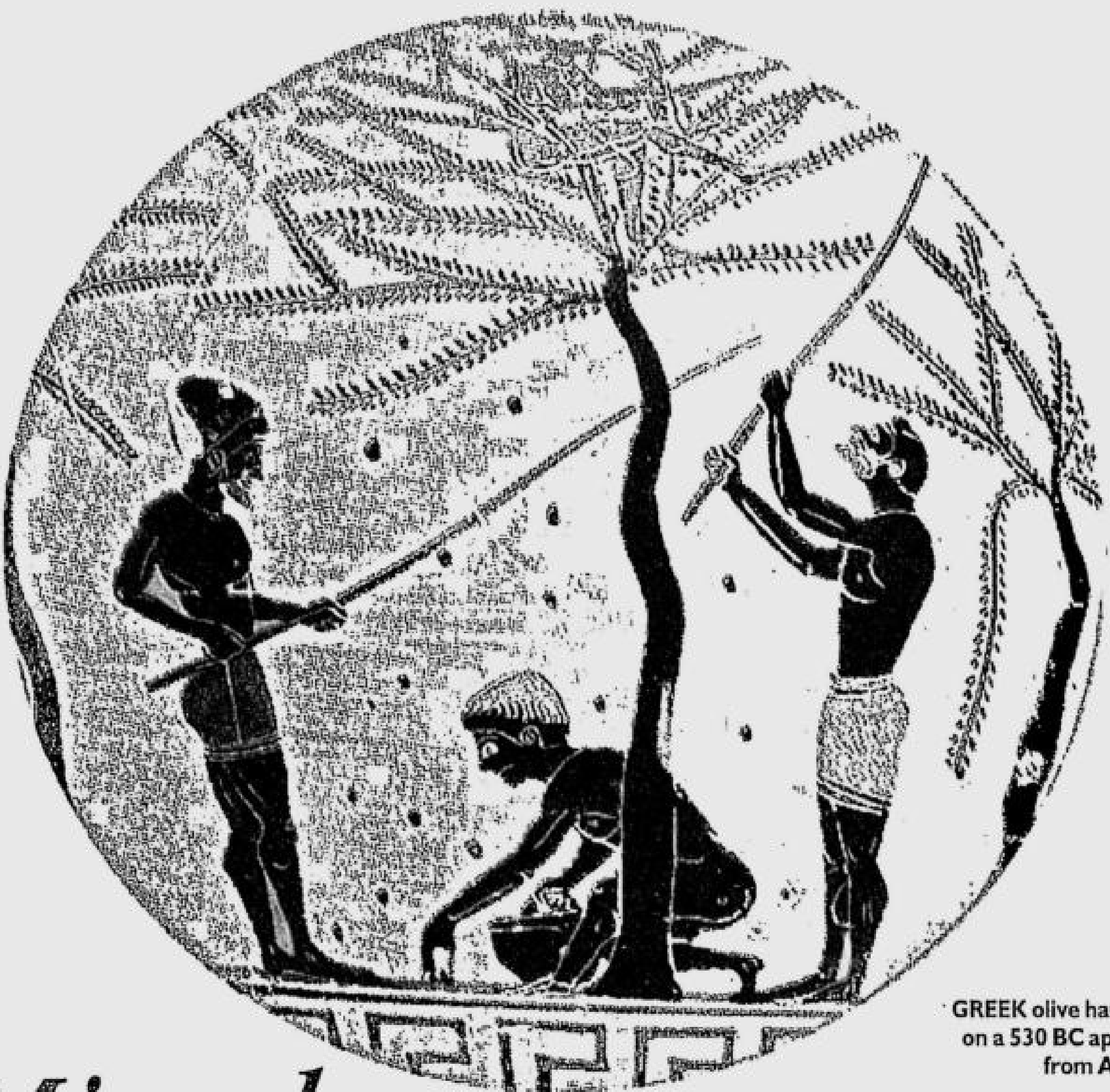

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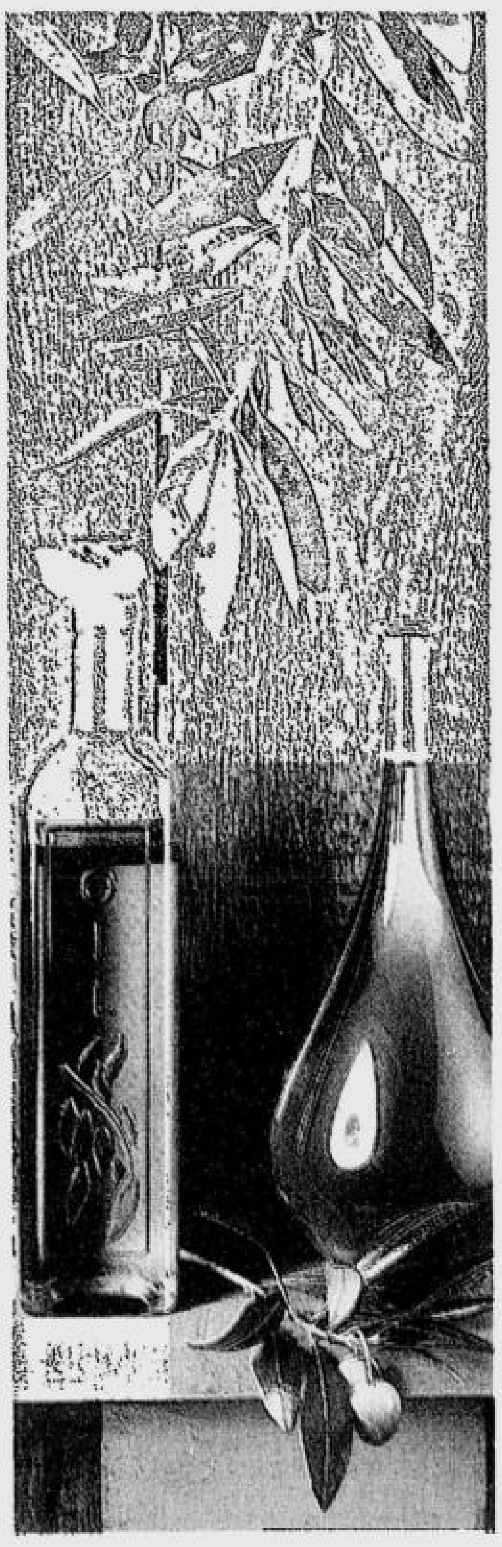

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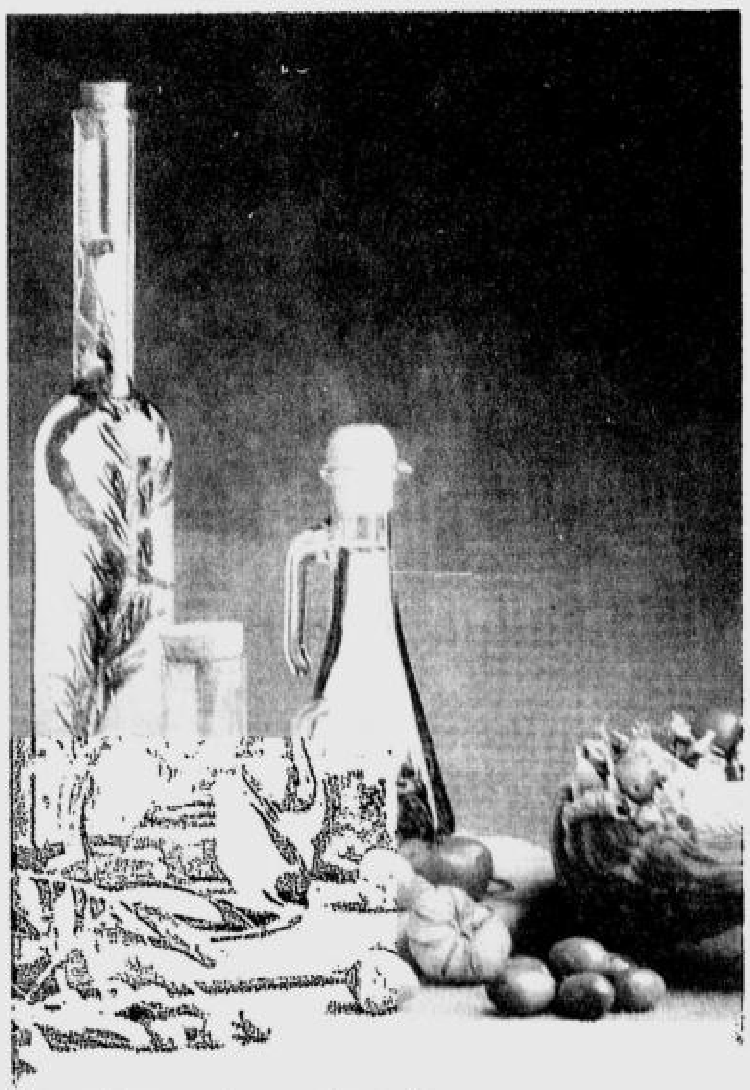

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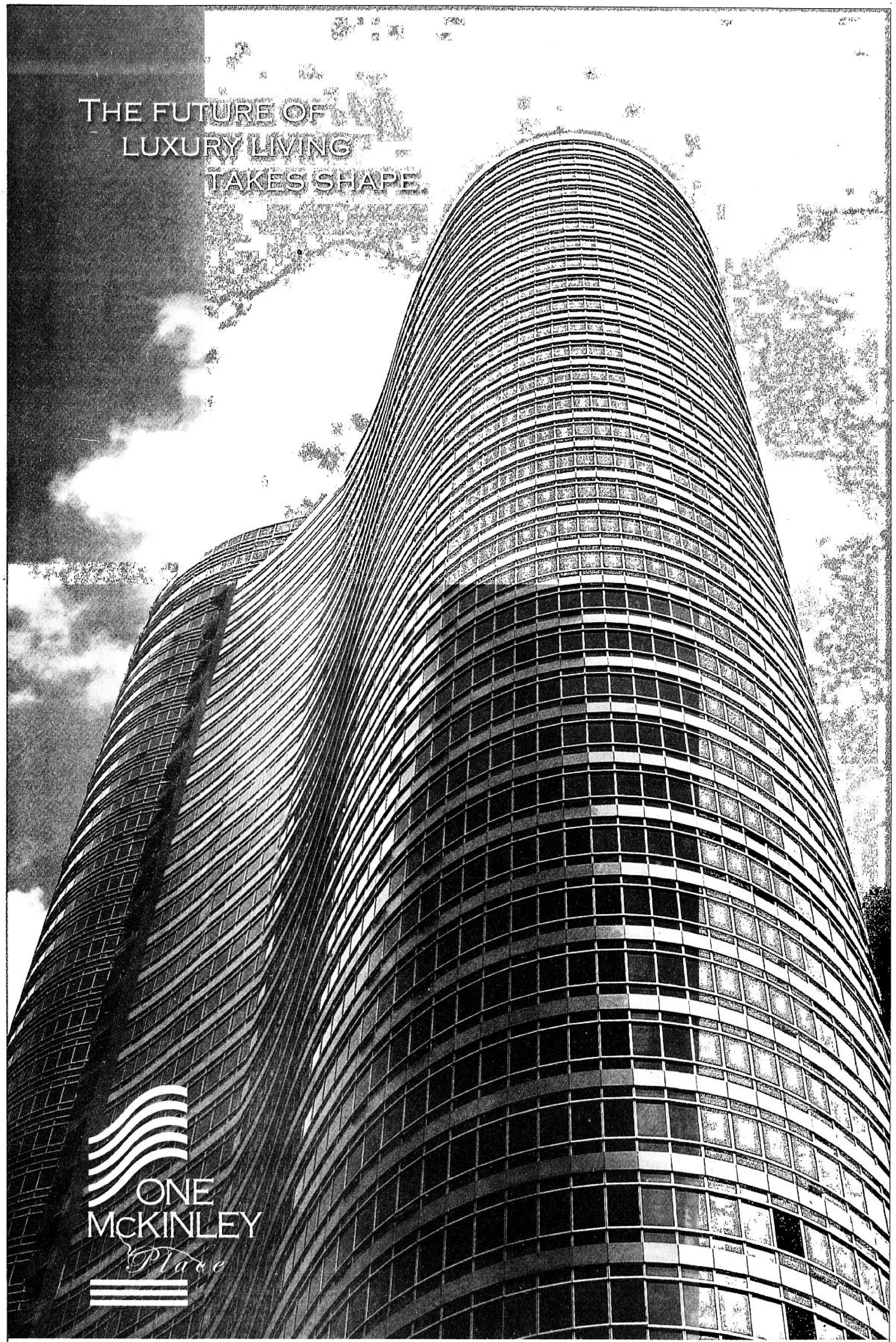

One McKinley Place. An elegant high-rise condominium that boasts of innovative architecture and interior design. Located in the Bonifacio Global City, its prestigious address gives easy access to the major commercial districts; and, it offers a panoramic view of Manila Golf, Antipolo Hills and Laguna Lake.

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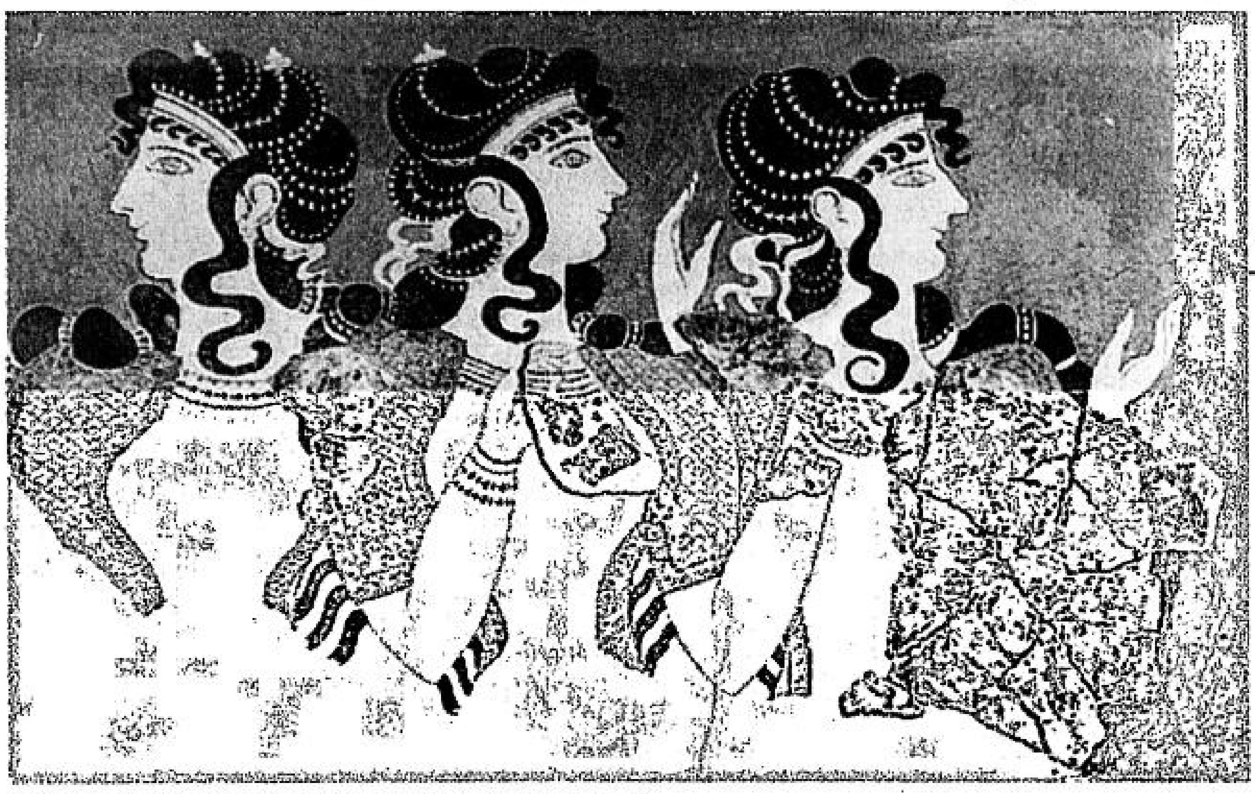


IN ANTIQUITY, men and women used olive oil as a cosmetic.

# *Miracle* Oil

**By Rosanna Escudero**

*Olive oil makes all your aches and pains go away.*—**Ancient proverb**

DID you know that hidden away in your kitchen cupboard is a beauty ingredient that could enhance your looks, make your eyes sparkle and skin glow?

For centuries, the legendary benefits of olive oil nutritionally, cosmetically and medicinally have been acknowledged by the people of the Mediterranean.

In the Bible, for instance, the olive oil's healing powers are amply demonstrated in the famous parable where the Good Samaritan tends to the robbed man by pouring oil and wine into his wounds.

In Greek and Roman times, instead of soap, bathing people rubbed themselves with olive oil, then scraping it off with a curved blade of wood or bronze called strigil. Olive oil was also used to maintain the suppleness of the skin and muscle, to heal abrasions and to soothe the burning and drying effects of sun and wind.

Ancient women also used the oil as a perfumed cosmetic and especially to give body and shine to their hair. Mixed with spices or herbs, it was administered both internally and externally for health and beauty.

Both Pliny and Hippocrates prescribed medications containing olive oil and olive leaves as cures for a number of disorders, ranging from inflammation of the gums to insomnia, nausea, and boils.

In the time of Mohammed, putting oil on the hair was considered a health measure as it discouraged lice and dandruff.

Many of these old remedies have passed into folk medicine and are still as relevant today as they were hundreds of years ago.

## Olives and good health

Recent research on the olive oil's therapeutic effects has now provided firm proof that the oil can play an important role in maintaining good health.

It has been determined that the monounsaturated fatty acids present in olive oil help reduce bad cholesterol levels and therefore lower the risk of cardiovascular diseases. It has been shown to reduce gastric acidity, and its emollient effect checks stomach disorders, including heartburn and ulcers.

It has been determined that olive oil aids the passage of food through the intestines. This means that it promotes digestion and helps prevent constipation, enabling better elimination that will ensure the detoxification of poisons from the system.

The oil also stimulates metabolism and bile secretion, while provoking the contraction of the gall bladder and reducing the risk of gallstones.

Since olive oil contains Vitamin E and oleic acid, which is also found in human milk, it aids normal bone growth and is most suitable for both expectant and nursing mothers because it encourages the development of the infant's brain and nervous system before and after birth.

Finally, olive oil has also been shown to prevent the wear and tear of age on the functioning of the brain and on the ageing of the tissues and organs in general.

Olives have a high content of polyphenols, a broad class of antioxidants including flavonoids and catechins, which are also found in red wine, chocolate, tea and many other foods. The antioxidant activity of polyphenols found in olive oil not only slows the ageing process but has the highest activity in combating the free radicals that damage body cells and tissues.

Additionally, olive oil is rich in the antioxidant Vitamin E and Pro-vitamin A (carotene) that prove beneficial to skin damage. Olive oil on the body protects the skin from harmful sunrays and burns, helps prevent dry skin conditions and eczema.

The oil is a mild antibacterial agent just as natural skin oils are, and does not typically cause the clogging of pores.

## Best-quality olive oil

Since small quantities of oil can do the job, we might as well choose the best quality there is. Always look for the first cold-pressed extraction from, preferably, organically grown olives since they produce the finest grade and quality oil for both internal and external use.

The best-quality oil is usually made from green (i.e. unripe) olives which have been pressed once. It is subjected to a production method in which no heat or chemicals are applied. First cold-pressed extra virgin olive oil is a totally pure product and it retains all the natural flavors and nutrients.

Lesser grades utilize further pressing, heat and chemical processes that not only destroy essential nutrients but may also change the nature of the oil, yielding poorer-quality oil with higher levels of acidity.

Avoid pure and light olive oil—these are usually over-refined, bleached and chemically processed and contain the highest levels of acidity.

## Folk remedies

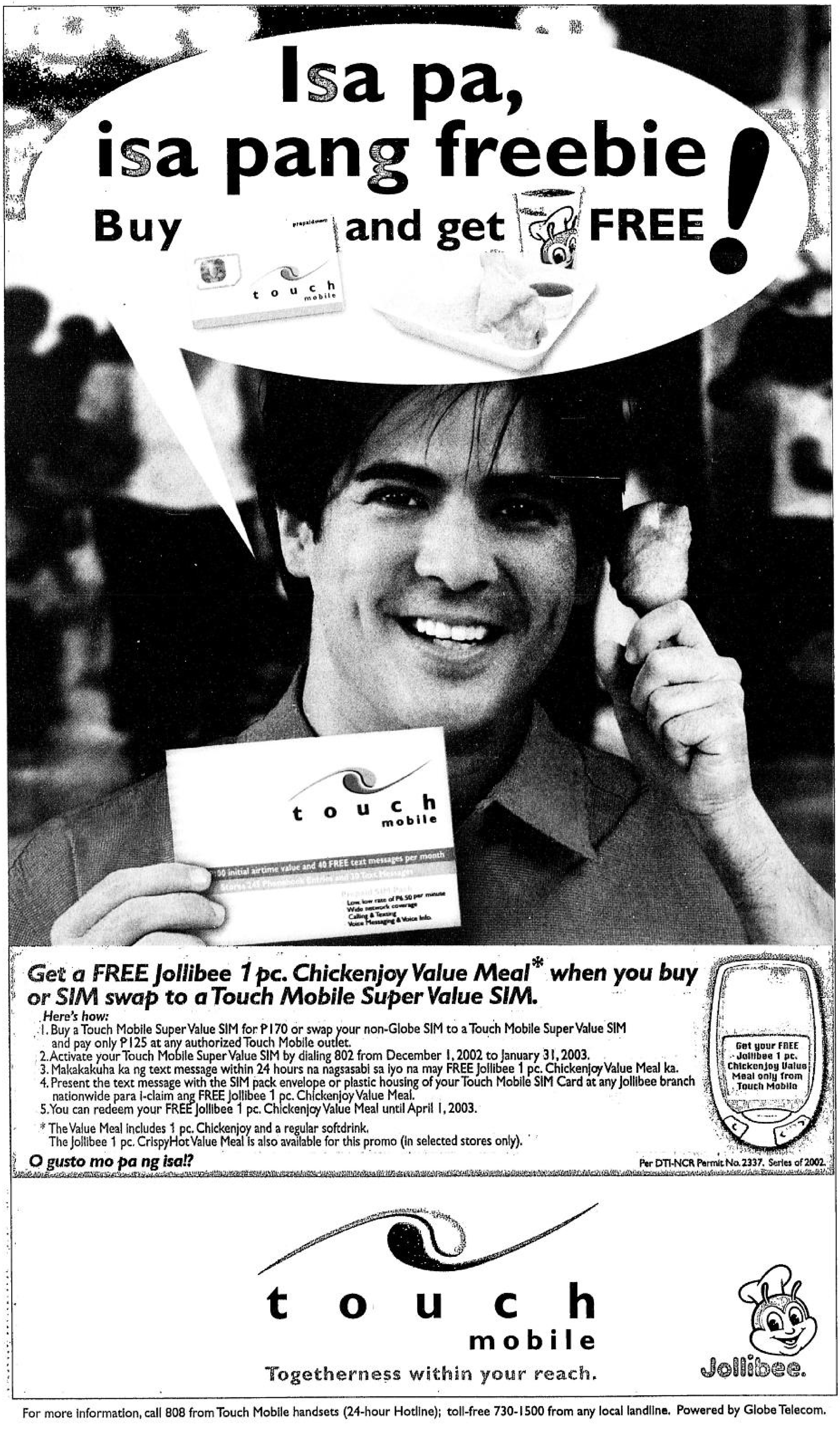
Although as yet not scientifically proven, these tips have been handed down through generations. Here are some quick and easy ways to use olive oil as a natural and healthy beauty product.

**For dry skin.** Applied on the skin, olive oil works as moisturizer. Rub onto the skin a mixture of olive oil and lemon juice before going to bed. Use on the face and body to create a radiant and silky glow, or mix it with other natural ingredients like fresh strawberries to make a more exotic moisturizer. (caution: Do not use in direct sunlight)

**To prevent wrinkles.** Moisturize your face with a face mask of olive oil and mashed avocados. Leave on for 15 minutes then rinse off to reveal a smooth, revived and radiant skin.

**To soften the skin.** As a natural exfoliator,

MIRACLE/C10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3. Makakakuha ka ng text message within 24 hours na nagsasabi sa iyo na may FREE Jollibee 1 pc. Chickenjoy Value Meal ka.
4. Present the text message with the SIM pack envelope or plastic housing of your Touch Mobile SIM Card at any Jollibee branch nationwide para i-claim ang FREE Jollibee 1 pc. Chickenjoy Value Meal.
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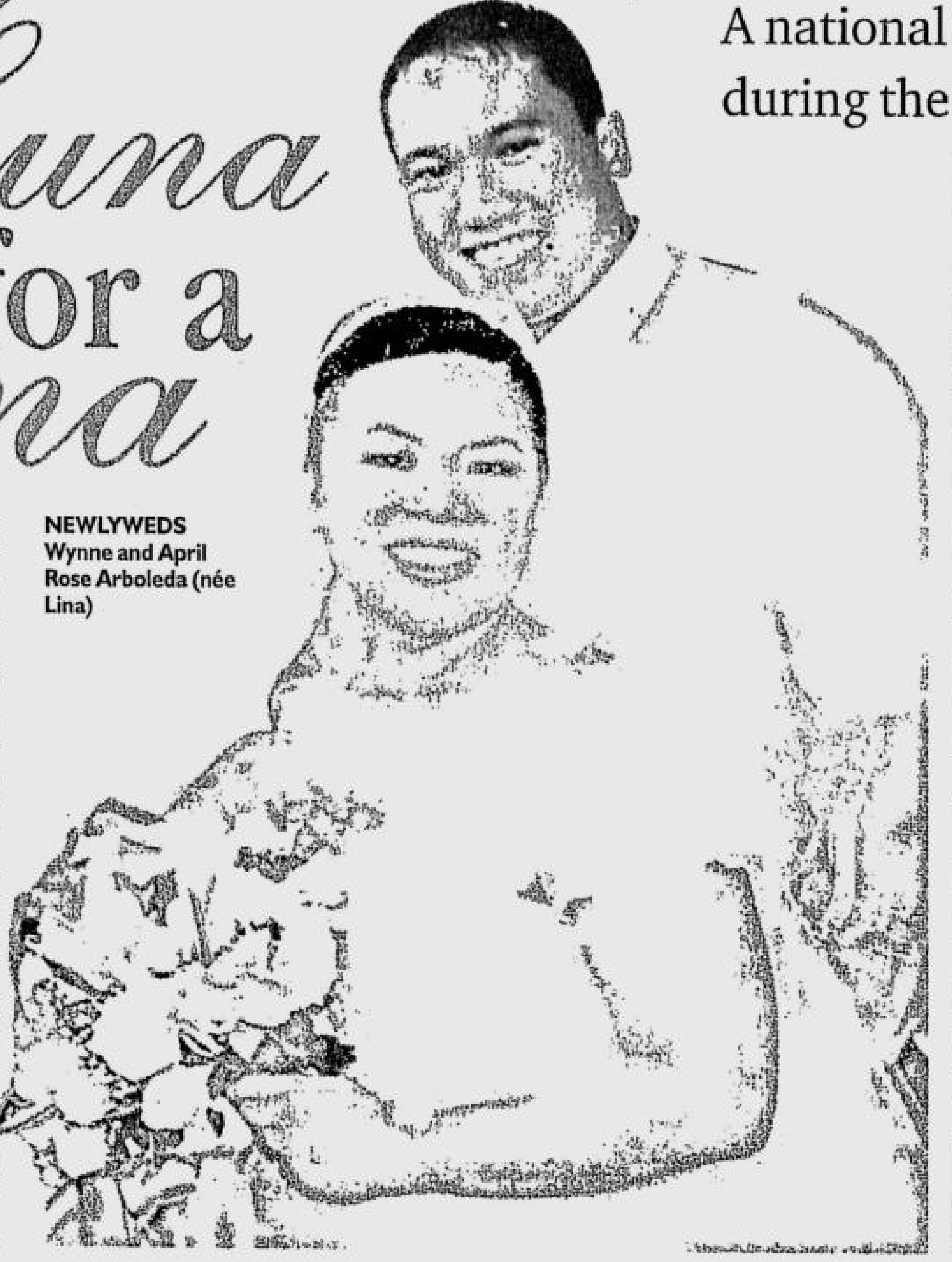
Weddings & Engagements

Sunday LIFESTYLE

# A Luna for a Lina

## A national treasure took center stage during the wedding reception



**NEWLYWEDS** Wynne and April Rose Arboleda (née Lina)

Dr. Teyet Pascual put "history" as backdop in the recent wedding of April Rose, daughter of FedEx chair Bert and Sylvia Lina.

Pascual, who "produced" the Malacañang wedding of Vice Gov. Mikey and Angela Arroyo, awed guests by putting Juan Luna's "Angels in Flight," a national treasure, at the center of the ballroom of the Alabang Country Club where the reception for April and his groom Wynne, son of Mr. and Ms Antonio Arboleda, was held.

April, the eldest daughter of the Lina couple, was radiant in a modern *piña* gown by the New Yorker Salon as she was escorted by her father to the altar where Wynne, point guard of the FedEx basketball team, waited.

The wedding was held at the St. Jerome and St. Susanna Church in Alabang, with Fr. Vicente Lina of Mo. Rosario Parish in Bulacan and the bride's uncle and Fr. Ruben Ortiz officiating.

April's sister, Sheila, who's graduating from New York University this spring, sang during the ceremony, accompanied by Marcy and his band.

A LUNA/D2

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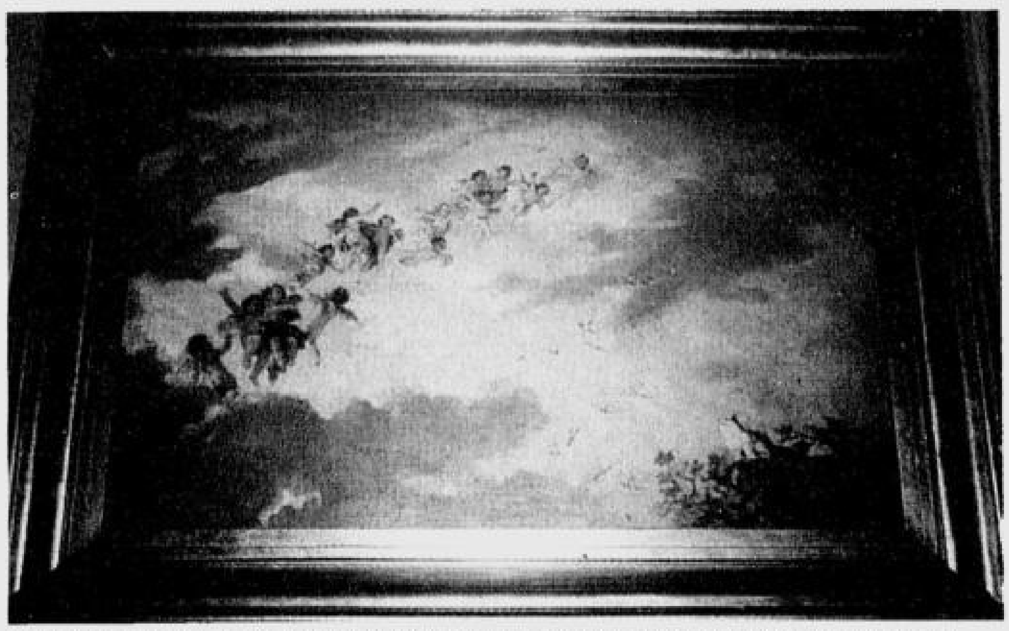
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0055, Series of 2003.

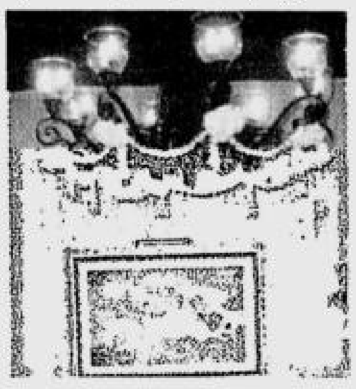
Rustan's

THE BRIDE is escorted by her father, Bert Lina.



LUNA painting "Angels in Flight" flown if by FedEx from London specially for the wedding

ITALIAN bisque porcelain angels surrounded by 10 dozens of bejeweled *blanc de chine* vases.



THE CHANDELIERS (12 of them) are sampaguita garlanded and festooned with 20 dozen roses.

BIR Commissioner Willy Parayno with the father of the bride

# A Luna for a Lina

From page D1

Principal sponsors were Internal Revenue Commissioner Willy Parayno, former Laguna Lakers coach Bonnie Garcia, Airfreight 2100 Inc. president Lito Alvarez, Mayor Roberto Garcia Jr. of Ibahay, Aklan, Manuel L. Quezon University executive director Victoria Chan, Vicky Magadia (represented by Chichi Salas), April's favorite aunt Baby Vale and Wynne's godmother Zaira Peralta.

The couple was brought to the reception in a white stretch limo courtesy of Porong and Tina Herrera.

With the Luna painting holding place of honor, the ballroom's chandeliers were decorated with *sampaguita* and roses while pink and lilac *crepe de chine* brightened up the walls. Table centerpieces consisted of porcelain angels, white and pink roses, little porcelain bells and baskets.

Pascual was assisted in the flower arrangements by Jayson Borja.

Four buffet tables were set up by the Makati Skyline. Garlic Garcia and Richard Villanueva hosted the program. A.k.a. fellas, a group of eight young men, entertained the guests.

Sheila and her cousin Pipo, son of Interior Secretary Joey Lina, did a duet, "Ikaw Lamang." Two other sisters, Bertha, who was also a bridesmaid, and Donna May, maid of honor, joined Sheila in performing "Wishin' and Hopin'." The father of the bride sang "As Time Goes By" for the new couple's first dance.

Anthony Fong from U-Freight Hong Kong, led a toast to the newlyweds. Faye Fog and Mr. and Ms K.K. Lee also flew in from Hong Kong.

Other guests were Freddie M. Garcia, president of ABS-CBN, and his wife Gloria; Laguna Lake Development Authority general manager Calixto Cataquiz, Biñan Mayor Hermis Perez, Judge Alex Ruiz, Gen. Mitch Templo, chief of security of Filinvest Corp., and his wife, Mildred; lawyer Argee Guevarra, Gen. and Ms Charlie Tanega, Louie and Ennah Liwanag, Mr. and Ms Silvestre Pascual, Gen. Salvador Mison, Luis C. Diaz, Mr. and Ms Ted Javier, Rotarian friends Pabling and Maribel Calma, Gus and Tess Lagman, and comedian Gary Lising.

THE BRIDE with her sisters Bertha, Sheila and Donna

MOTHER of the bride Sylvia Lina with cousin Judge Alex Ruiz

WITH MR. and Ms K.K. See and Mr. and Ms Anthony Fong of U-Freight Hong Kong

WITH GEN. Mitch and Mildred Templo, Maui Aglipay, and Gen. Charlie and Grace Tañega

WITH TESS Lagman, Cora Tan, bride's mom Sylvia, Dr. Penny Reloza, Bert Lingad, Tonie Lingad, bride's dad Bert, and lawyers Chet Tan, Roger Nicardo and Tony Pastelero

WITH FRANCIS and Nela Ferrer, Freddie and Gloria Garcia, and Ted and Rose Javier

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# Thousands of devotees attend Sto. Niño fiesta in Cebu

**PURELY PERSONAL**

*Josephine Darang*

WHEN the Sto. Niño de Cebu was approaching Osmeña Boulevard corner Padre Burgos Street in Cebu City, people started singing "Batu-Balani."

When He came into view, they waved their hands. And repeatedly they sang the refrain: "*Kanamo malooy ka unta, nga kanimo nangilaba.*" It means "Have pity on us who are praying to you."

And as they sang, they also released balloons, which rose to the sky and disappeared into the night. They were prayers hoping to reach heaven and expressions of affection for the Christ Child. They were from all towns of Cebu, and cities of the Visayas, Mindanao and Manila.

The Basilica Minore de Sto. Niño was full of people since early morning of Jan. 18 when we went straight from the airport. While a Holy Mass was celebrated in the Pilgrim Center, people continued to wait outside, hoping to see the original image of the Sto. Niño de Cebu inside the church.

We knelt before His sacred image amid a throng of people who also prayed. Some waved while they prayed. Rich and poor, young and old, were all there asking for His help or saying "Thank you" for favors granted.

This scene of humanity praying to the Christ Child brought tears to my eyes. It made me realize that we needed not be afraid for God was there to help us.

The presence of so many people during the Sto. Niño's fiesta on the third Sunday of January is proof of their strong faith.

## Fluvial procession

In the morning of Jan. 18, the images of the Sto. Niño de Cebu and Our Lady of Guadalupe were brought in a fluvial procession from Mandaue to Cebu City in the yacht of Ernesto Ouano Sr., father of my friends Edna Toral, Olga Ouano and Happy Miranda.

Accompanied by Msgr. Chris Garcia, the images were brought to the Pilgrim Center across the Basilica.

In a reenactment of the giving of the Sto. Niño to Queen Juana by Pigafetta, clerk of Ferdinand Magellan, in 1521, the natives came accompanied by Spanish soldiers and missionaries. Queen Juana was also baptized then by Fray Pedro Valderrama.

The Ouano family's yacht has been used for the past 20 years for the fluvial procession. The images of the Sto. Niño and Our Lady used to be brought on small boats, which were not too safe. Every January, the images stay in the Church of St. Joseph (now the National Shrine of St. Joseph) where Masses are said. Bishop Antonio Rañola, then parish priest, would welcome the images.

The people of Mandaue await this momentous event because the Sto. Niño de Cebu and Mama Mary have come to them.

Ouano Sr. and his wife accepted this honor of lending their yacht when he was only 68. Now he is 88, still strong. His wife, Mary Martinez Ouano, passed away in September last year.

## Devotion through generation

Many continue to keep the devotion to the Sto. Niño de Cebu alive. Since she was a child, Cynthia Arnaldo Duterte of Danao City has been attending the fiesta. When I saw her during the evening procession, she was with her husband, children and grandchildren. Although our Lady of Guadalupe is the patron of Cebu, many still go to the Sto. Niño.

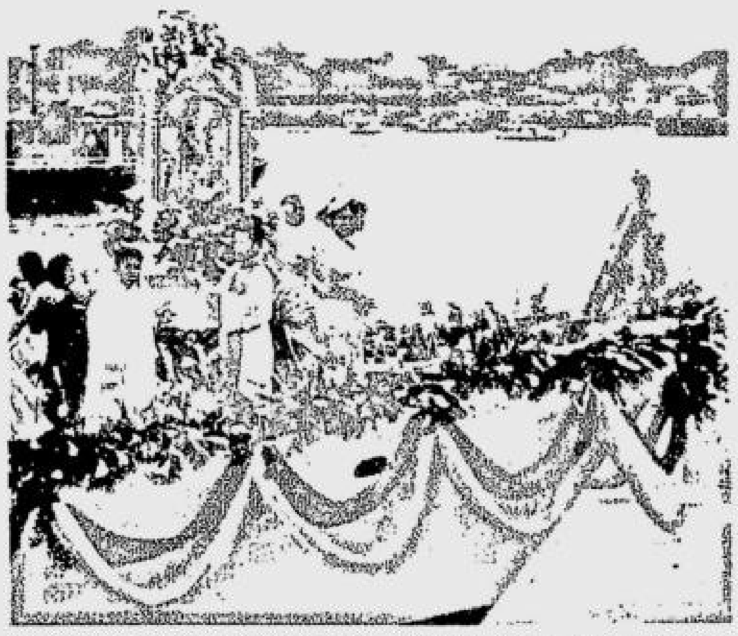
## Manaoag Rosary Center in Carmen

The barrio of Corte in Carmen is blessed to have the St. Benedictine Chapel run by the Benedictine Fathers of St. Sylvestrine. It is built on a hill and beside it, the Our Lady of Manaoag Rosary Center is being constructed.

It began when Edna Toral had a recurring dream in 2001, shortly after she was able to have the image of Our Lady of Manaoag enthroned in 20 churches in Cebu and Leyte. It was also the week of her 60th birthday on Feb. 13, 2001.

Edna dreamt of the Rosary, a roof, then a voice which said "rosary center."

The year before that, Fathers Thomas, Joseph and Bernard came to Cebu in the hope of finding a place where they could build a monastery upon the invitation of Cardinal Vidal.



They came to Carmen, where they stayed in the house of then Mayor Virginia Villamor for six months. With their money, they were able to buy 5 hectares of mountainous terrain, with an ample supply of water.

The priests met Edna's sister, Olga Ouano, and introduced her sisters Edna and Happy Miranda to them. When Edna visited the place, she felt the place was where the Virgin wanted her center to be built.

Inside the center will be 4' x 5' paintings of the Mysteries of the Holy Rosary. They are now being painted by Cebu artist Mar Vidal. The architect is Antonio Paragsa.

Guided by a strong faith that the Rosary Center will be finished, Edna goes to Corte every week to pay the laborers. A devotee from Imus, Cavite, sends P1,000 a month. From nowhere came a donation of P150,000 when there was a need to buy more cement and materials.

When it was too expensive for a company to bulldoze the mountain, 26 men from Carmen signed up to do the job with their simple tools. When the bulldozing truck finally came, only gasoline had to be paid.

The groundbreaking was in August 2002 and construction began on Dec. 8, 2002 with only P30,000 cash available.

Those who wish to help may write Edna Toral at 2 Humabon St., San Antonio Village, Banilad, Cebu City. Make checks payable to Our Lady of Manaoag Rosary Center. Thank you for your kindness.

Fr. Patricio Apa, parish priest of Manaoag, gave his blessings for the construction.

## Our Lady of Manaoag image

The image of Our Lady of Manaoag, to be enthroned at the Rosary Center, is already at the convent chapel of the Benedictines. People who have heard about the Virgin in the chapel have come to ask for help.

Favors granted included passing the CPA exams, healing of the sick, or solution to a financial problem. Hopefully the Rosary Center will be finished by Sept. 7, so more people can travel to Corte in Carmen.

Father Thomas told me that, because of my column, two male professionals have expressed their intention to join the order. Those who are interested may write to Father Thomas at St. Benedictine Monastery, Corte, Carmen, 6005 Cebu or e-mail benedictinessil@yahoo.com.

## Bishop Jesse Mercado to be installed

Bishop Jesse Mercado will be installed as new bishop of the Diocese of Parañaque 3 p.m. today at St. Andrew Cathedral in La Huerta, Parañaque. The new diocese covers Las Piñas and Muntinlupa. Expected to attend are the Papal Nuncio, Cardinal Sin, Cardinal Vidal and 300 priests of the diocese.

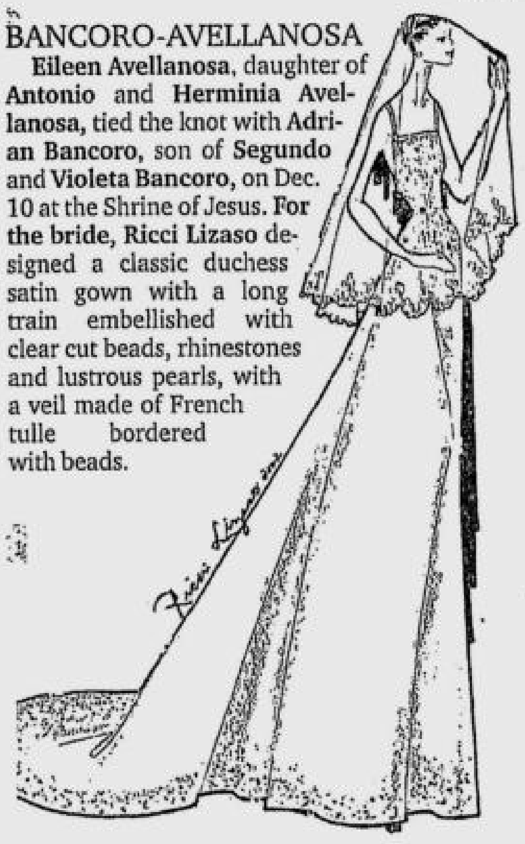
In Antipolo, Bishop Gabriel Reyes formerly of Kalibo, will be installed as new bishop on Jan. 29, while Bishop Teodoro Bacani was already made bishop of Novaliches. Msgr. Bayani Valenzuela is the rector of the St. Andrew Cathedral.

# Milestones

*We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

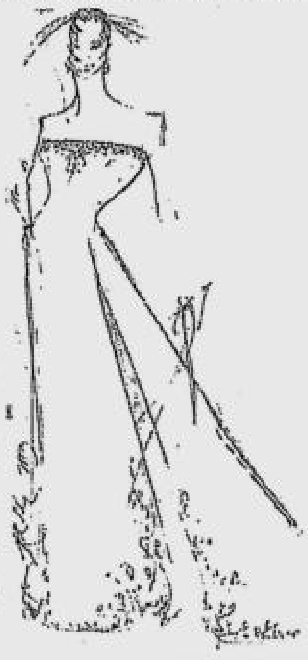
## BANCORO-AVELLANOSA

**Eileen Avellanosa**, daughter of **Antonio** and **Herminia Avellanosa**, tied the knot with **Adrian Bancoro**, son of **Segundo** and **Violeta Bancoro**, on Dec. 10 at the Shrine of Jesus. **For the bride, Ricci Lizaso** designed a classic duchess satin gown with a long train embellished with clear cut beads, rhinestones and lustrous pearls, with a veil made of French tulle bordered with beads.



## FAMY-TECSON

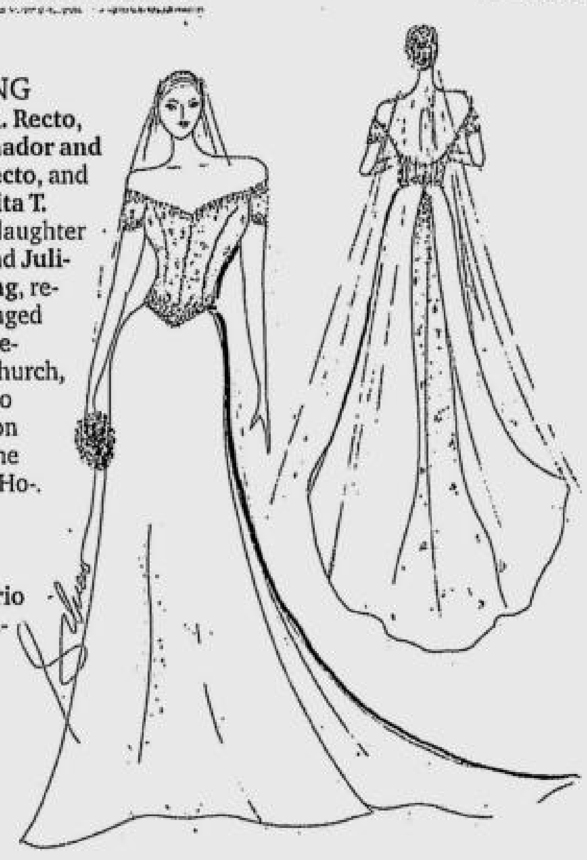
**Rodel Famy**, son of **Justina C. Intal vda. de Famy**, will wed **Annalyn Tecson**, daughter of **Estrellita** and **Romeo Tecson**, on April 5 at Our Lady of Remedies Parish Church, Malate, Manila. Reception will follow at the Ramon Magsaysay Center, 1680 Roxas Boulevard. The bridal gown is designed by Paul Haute Couture.



## RECTO-MANABENG

**Dominic R. Recto**, son of **Dominador and Remedios Recto**, and lawyer **Teresita T. Manabeng**, daughter of **Paquito and Julieta Manabeng**, recently exchanged vows at the Redemptorist Church, Bajada, Davao City. Reception was held at the Grand Regal Hotel, Lanang, Davao City.

The bride wore a **Silverio Anglacer** creation.



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*The Philam Bond Fund Ranked 1st in 2002*

Espoused by moves of the national government to lower interest rates as a matter of economic policy, the current low interest environment made Philam Asset Management, Inc.'s (PAMI's) bond funds attractive to many first-time mutual fund investors. Both the Philam Bond Fund and Philam Dollar Bond Fund posted tremendous growth in two performance measures - AUM (assets under management) and number of shareholders.

From an initial authorized capital of Php50 Million in mid-1998, Philam Bond Fund, Inc. (PBFI) has now grown to more than Php4.7 Billion of assets. PBFI is the best performing fund in its category, and the industry as a whole, for the year 2002 based on the official reports published by Investment Company Association of the Philippines (ICAP).

PBFI's net yield for 2002 is 9.50%, from 2001's year-end net asset value per share (NAVPS) of Php1.5627 to Php1.7111 as of December 2002. The fund was able to outpace its closest rivals by more than a full percentage point for the same one-year period.

PBFI was able to outperform instruments with a similar one-year holding period by at least 500 basis points. A major reason why many people invested in it is because of the predominance of government securities in the fund's portfolio. Government securities are considered the safest instrument especially during these turbulent times.

What's even more amazing is that PBFI, through its active fund management tactics and strategies, was able to post the 2002 gains amidst low interest rates in the local market. The benchmark one-year treasury bill rate for 2002 averaged a measly 5.20%. The low interest rates derived from both government securities and corporate papers resulted to time deposit rates that averaged around 7.12% for the one-year placement and 4.00% for the 30-day placement. Note that these time deposit rates are gross yields and are subject to 20% withholding tax that will reduce the net returns to 5.70% and 3.20%, respectively.

However, skeptics may wonder how a fixed-income mutual fund such as PBFI, invested in the same instruments available locally, generate so much more gains than its competitors? There are three major factors that lead to PBFI's astounding performance: active fund management, the involvement of Philam Group's finance professionals, and the financial muscle of the Philam Group of Companies.

Active fund management is a basic mutual fund benefit claimed by all mutual fund managers. However, the term does not simply rest on the buying and selling of securities for shareholders as most fund managers do. Active fund management also includes market analysis, asset allocation, risk management, tax management, and counter-party relationship building as well. PAMI takes all of these activities as part of its fund management operations.

PAMI has also banked on the involvement of Philam Group's finance professionals for much needed advice in its fund management directions and strategies. These executives have all given valuable time to ensure that PAMI Funds will all be classified as part of the best performing funds in every sector of the industry.

Lastly, but certainly not the least in terms of importance, is the fact that PAMI is a part of the Philam Group of Companies. This enables it to acquire attractive deals available in the local market at low costs. The massive financial resource of the Philam Group plus the guidance of PAMI Chairman, Mr. Jose L. Cuisia, Jr., makes this possible.

In general, while a mutual fund by itself could provide shareholders with solutions aimed at meeting their financial needs, it is more important for present and future investors to evaluate the entity tasked to manage their funds. In the final analysis, a mutual fund is only as good as its fund manager.

ADVTL.

# 4th WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

January 22 to 26, 2003

# Families as agents of evangelization

'We must pass from the idea of the family as object of evangelization to the idea of the family as an agent of evangelization, where all are responsible in order to live the grace of the Gospel and to proclaim it by words and life'

PHOTOS BY JIM G. PUNZALAN

CHURCH leaders at the third leg of the International Theological and Pastoral Congress at the PICC Plenary Hall Jan. 24 moved for concrete and dynamic efforts to answer the call of evangelization through the family.

The congress that took up the sub-theme "The Church, the Ecumenical Movement, and Inter-Religious Encounter," also discussed the difficult issue of world peace in the light of common understanding and dialogue among religions.

University of Naples professor Father Forte assessed the mission of evangelization and urged families to take its share with the Church in proclaiming the Gospels.

"We must pass from the idea of the family as object of evangelization to the idea of the family as an agent of evangelization, where all are responsible in order to live the grace of the Gospel and to proclaim it by words and life," he said.

Forte also maintained that the Church's "normal principal activity is neither the mission nor evangelization." "Rather, it is pastoral activity which involves commitment and action based on the mature faith of believers, their sanctification through the sacraments and the defense and promotion of faith," he added.

On the other hand, Congregation for Evangelization of People's prefect Crescenzio Cardinal Sepe stressed that the sacrament of matrimony itself enjoins families to evangelization. This, he added, makes the family a "living reflection and a historical incarnation of the Church."

"The Christian family is called, through the sacrament of love that establishes it, to be a sign of the love of God in the history of humanity. Only in losing its life for others does a family discovers its true self and grows into full development," the Cardinal said.

Malaysian Peter Hwang, a reactor in the congress agreed with the Cardinal. "We must affirm that evangelization starts in the family. 'Love thy neighbor' must be put into practice. If we are one with our neighbors, we are one with Jesus," Hwang said.

Kenyan couple Andrew and Jane Kiura, also among the panel of reactors, shared to the congress their own brand of experience in evangelization. Jane, a former Protestant recounted her married life with Andrew, a Catholic, and how they shared in the deepening of faith. "Our house is always turned into a religion classroom at night," she said in jest.

The congress was also delighted by the news of a childbirth . Filipino Rose Alenton, a delegate from the Philippine province Cagayan de Oro reportedly had labor pains and was rushed to the University of East-Ramon Magsaysay (UERM) Hospital in Manila early morning. The assembly such a resounding "Happy Birthday" to welcome the child in the world. Meanwhile, Jesuit Paul Cardinal Shan Kou-his, president of the Chinese Regional Bishops' Conference proved how ecumenical dialogue could be used to uphold the dignity of life and morality. He particularly mentioned the role of Ecumenism in his country Taiwan in unifying Catholics, Protestants, Buddhists and the members of other groups in the fight against abortion, the promotion of proper sex education among the youth and social decency.

"As traditional cultural values are broken down by the culture of death, working together for a culture of life worldwide points for dialogue and cooperation," he said.

A highlight of the discussion of Ecumenism was the exchange of testimonies from Romanian Archbishops Ioan Robu and Nifon Nicolae Mihaita. Robu and Mihaita, of the Archdioceses of Bucharest and Targovistei respectively, represent the Church in the predominantly Eastern Orthodox region.

Bishop Oswald Gomis, secretary general of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conference opened the congress today. In his remarks, Bishop Gomis expressed hope in Asia as the center of religious diversity. He also added that the first and best instrument for evangelization is the family.

"Asia is the cradle of religions makes it largely spiritual. Religion is the driving force of the people of Asia," Gomis said.

Pray for the triumph of matrimony. Say no to Divorce.
A public service message from Publicis-AMA.

# Encounter experience of sons and daughters intensifies

A CELEBRATION of the youth's creativity and uniqueness marked the second day of the Sons and Daughters Congress (Jan. 23) at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) in Manila.

The toddlers were taught some animations and songs early in the day, three of which came from an Australian family including Caitlin Hill who delightfully sang with four other children during their watercolor art session.

Shortly before break time, the children prayed with hands clasped and eyes closed in innocent prayer. It was so beautiful to see them talk to God like angels and sing with all their childhood joy.

The small and big lessons they gain from this continuing experience are surely far better and sweeter than their playful mood.

For the pre-teens, the day opened with a cultural dance presentation from the Santo Niño Parochial School, followed by a short talk on the role of children in society given by Bishop Teodoro Bacani Jr. of Novaliches.

The kids were asked to give a distinct name for their small groups and create their own flag, all of which demonstrated their creativity and dynamism.

The family spirit, bonding and friendship were among the many things that the youth participants of the congress considered most significant for the day. "I gained friends and confidence because of this experience," said Christine Amatorio of Colegio de Santa Rosa in Makati.

The youth participants were given an opportunity to share their positive traits and reveal their "true selves" that are sometimes kept hidden.

Although reluctant at first, they later on felt the warmth of acceptance from their peers and felt more free to be who they are.

Dennis, a group leader, proudly said, "We have all learned to accept a person as he is."

"I hope that the family would get closer to one another as we would be to God. I enjoy being here and I look forward to more fun activities and insights from the succeeding talks and activities," said Rima Ostuwani from St. Paul College in Quezon City.

After the group sharing, Don Bosco Father Francis Gustilo began his sharing on the situation of the youth in the church with a music video entitled, "One today to save tomorrow," which featured images of poor Filipino families and innocent faces of children.

All those who saw it were inspired to make a difference in society after seeing how much help the world needs and how unity that starts from the family could help the world in its struggle against poverty and injustice.

"Difficulty and beauty in life come together. There is no perfect family. What makes it beautiful is that you are struggling for one priority, Father Gustilo said.

He invited the family of Mike and Me-an Manaois to show the youth that the secret to keeping a beautiful relationship in the family lies in keeping God at the center of their lives and supporting each family member, especially during troublesome times.

The toddlers, after their afternoon rest, had a "personal care and good grooming" activity where they were taught some basic hygiene. It was followed by a "Me and my Family" activity where the kids were made to distinguish good and bad behaviors while they are inside a church.

Pre-school teachers acting as facilitators used visual aids like colored pictures to make the discussion more interesting.

"I pray for my family to be more united, and I know we will never be apart from each other," Lee Jordan Paras of Saint Anthony School said with all his warmth and affection.

The Pre-teens, on the other hand, expressed their feelings and thoughts by writing about their dreams and hopes for their family and other families as well.

Monique Rodriguez of Saint Theresa's College wrote about the importance of prayer, saying that God strengthens family relationships and brings each member closer to Him.

A Eucharistic Celebration by Bishop Villegas followed by the "Desiderata" activity.

He gave an inspiring talk about Jesus, Mary, love, obedience and service and emphasized the two simple yet meaningful words, "You" and "Me," which helped the participants realize that they can make a difference and be of service to others in their own simple and innocent ways.

In a nutshell, the second day of the Sons and Daughters congress allowed the young people some moments of "self-discovery" through reflection and made them see and feel that everyone is unique and beautiful in God's eyes.

This heart-rending experience was beautifully capped when the delegates were made to write their personal letters for their parents, a moment when they really took time to express their gratitude and love for them, which for some, is not always said.

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TEKKI YAKI-UDON
HEART EVANGELISTA
TEKKI YAKI-UDON
CARLO AQUINO
TEKKI YAKI-UDON
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# Truly, a gathering of families

Close to 6,000 delegates and Church leaders gathered in Manila Jan. 22 to open the Fourth World Meeting of Families at the Philippine International Convention Center

CLOSE to 6,000 delegates and Church leaders gathered in Manila Jan. 22 to open the Fourth World Meeting of Families at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Anchored on the theme "Christian Family: Good News for the Third Millennium," the meeting drew a total 4,107 local and 421 foreign participants for the International Theological Pastoral Congress being held at the PICC Plenary Hall, and 1,110 youths, children and toddler participants for the Sons and Daughters Congress held simultaneously at the lobby second floor.

They represent 77 dioceses and include six international movements, 30 religious congregations and 40 local Church organizations.

It is the very first time that the triennial event is being held in Asia, which the church considers as the continent of the third millennium.

Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal sin noted with delight the participation of the infants in his opening remarks.

"This is truly a gathering of families. Truly you have come here not only as individuals but as families. You have come from every part of the world, bringing with you the deep conviction that the family indeed is a great gift of God, an original gift, marked by his blessings," he said.

In fact, a mother in the audience was discreetly breastfeeding her baby while the cardinal was speaking.

But Cardinal Sin admitted that he initially doubted if the Christian family is truly the good news for the third millennium "when the rate of divorce and broken families is at an all time high, when proponents of same-sex marriages question the basic family structure of father, mother and child and when traditional values of fidelity and commitment are frowned upon as vestiges of an antiquated past."

He emphasized however that the family is still the good news for the third millennium. "But not simply 'family'. It has to be a 'Christian family." he said.

For this part, Bishop Socrates Villegas, the meetings' central committee chair, also expressed the pride and honor of the Philippine church in being chosen to host the event.

"We are a poor country in the standards of economics. We are young democracy compared to the United States and Europe. But we value our family, we value our babies, we value our elderly, our wealth is in God," he said.

Bishop Villegas added that this event is an affirmation of "the Filipinos' great mission of the evangelization of the world."

After the introductory speeches, Cotabato Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, president of the Catholic Bishop's Conference of the Philippines, led the celebration of the Holy Eucharist enlivened by stirring hymns sung by a young choral group, accompanied by the University of Santo Tomas symphony orchestra.

True to its family theme, couples from various countries carrying candles joined the procession of bishops and cardinals at the start of the mass, did the multi-lingual readings and prayers, offered gifts and served as sentinels during Holy Communion.

In his homily, Archbishop Quevedo said that the family, "the true sanctuary of love and life," is facing the challenges of a materialistic and secularized world. He expressed hope that the meeting will inspire the Filipino family and the Asian family as well as deepen, strengthen and quicken the faith of every family.

In the keynote address of the International Theological and Pastoral Congress, papal legate Alfonso Cardinal Lopez Trujillo spoke of the new evangelization that requires new ardor, methods and expressions in relation to the family.

"The necessary conversion passes through recognition of the fact that the family, as educator of persons, carries out a kind of social mediation that has not ended and will not end," the president of the Pontifical Commission of the family said.

"By following this itinerary of personalization, guided by parents, children discover God as our Father, and that no one is capable of loving as He does. To discover God in the family, in the dynamic transmission of faith in the home, means to grow as Christians and to call for the destruction of the idols that secularism fabricates in an unceasing, difficult and bewildering way," Trujillo added.

Supreme Court Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., I n his speech that merited a standing ovation, reflected on the crucial foundations of a Christian family in the light of social justice and human rights.

"When the family is faithful to its calling and true to its vocation, it becomes the frontier for the world's struggle for justice, and its members, the agents and prophets of the many times unarticulated cry for justice. The greatest tribute that can be given to such a family is for all to be able to say of it: See how they love one another. After all, it was thus that the Master, the Christ, wished his disciples to be known. Thus every family must grow on the foundations of love and nourished by love," he said.

Knights of Columbus Supreme Carl Anderson, on the other hand, challenged State governments to consider the family at the center, rather than at the margin of government policies in his talk, "Family, Politics and Society."

"We have understood for centuries that a fundamental purpose of the family is procreation. This purpose goes beyond the narrow contemporary understanding of procreation as limited to human "reproduction" or "reproductive rights. Instead it includes the entire procreative process of begetting, bearing and raising children in order that they may become mature, beneficial and fully humane members of our society," Anderson told the congress in his talk, "Family, Politics and Society."

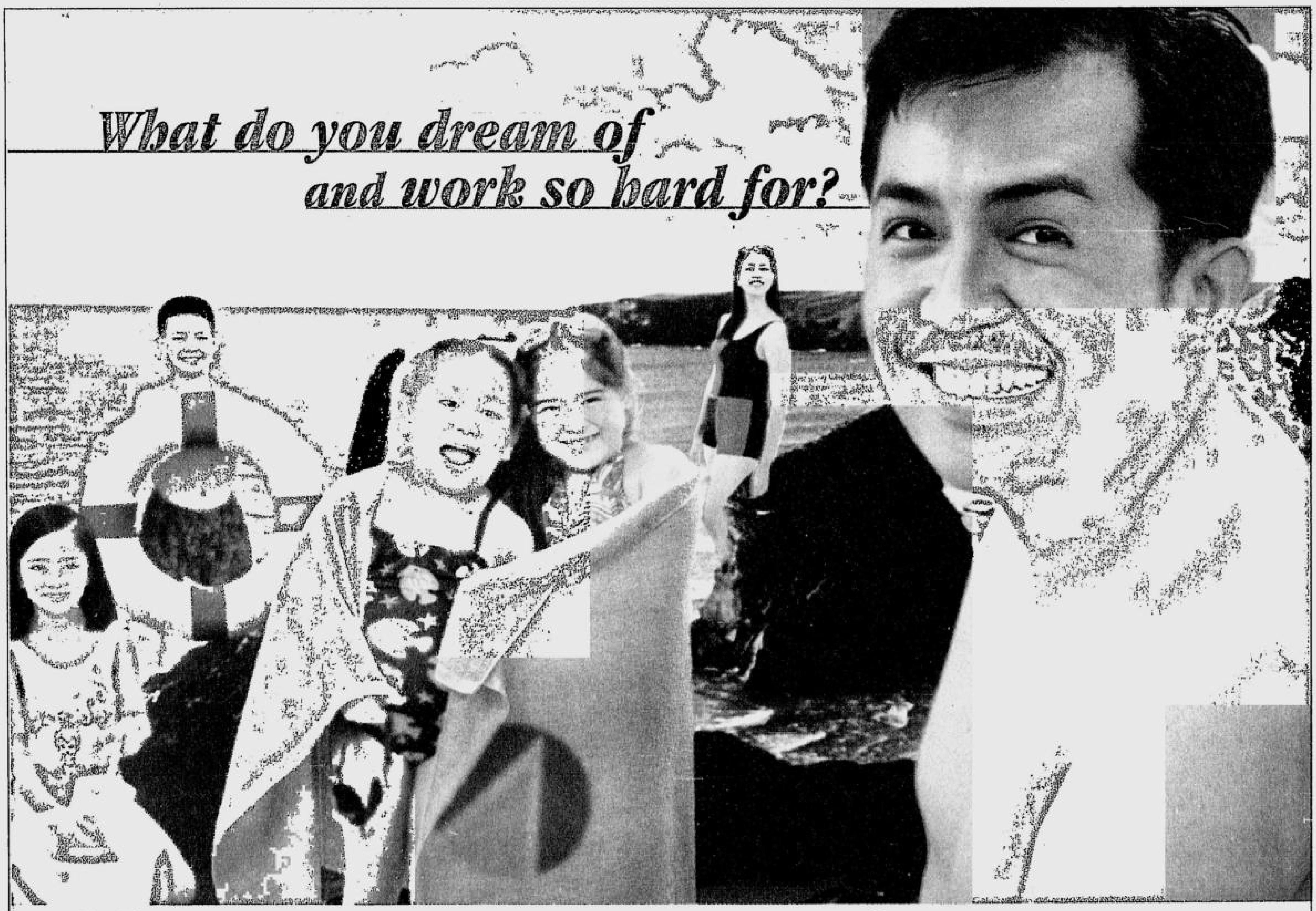
Meanwhile, Monsignor Salvatore Fisichella, rector of the Pontifical Lateran University, put a strong emphasis on the sanctity of life as an exclusive gift of the Creator and that which should not be experimented upon.

"In our time and culture, where man lives the temptation of thinking himself all powerful because he purports to be the master of life – to be able to give life and take it away as it pleases him, we are the sign that life has an inviolable and sacred characteristic because it is the exclusive gift of the Creator.

Fisichella asserted that life is not a laboratory experiment but an experience of transcendence where love allows individuals to perceive the mystery of participation in the creating act of the Father, in which sense, the fruitfulness of Christian love knows how to make upon itself even the renouncement suffered when maintaining procreation within the limits of nature.

The meeting also has an ecumenical aspects as the patriarch of the Orthodox Catholic Church, His Goodness Teocost sent his representative, Bishop Vincentiu Ploiesteanu, as well as a Russian delegation from the Orthodox Diocese of Ivanovo.

Delegates some in their national costumes, began queuing outside the PICC as early as 6 a.m. The ushers in native Filipino put on each of the delegates a necklace made of small Philippine seashells.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# AN AMAZING TALE OF TWO CITIES

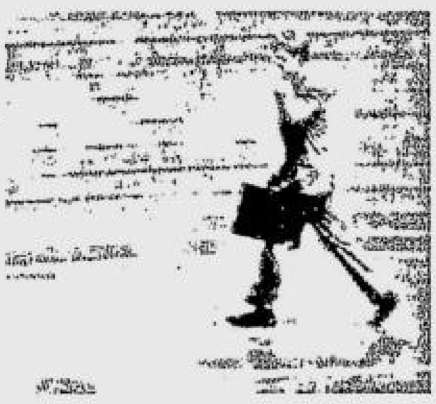
>> **By Jami Ledesma**

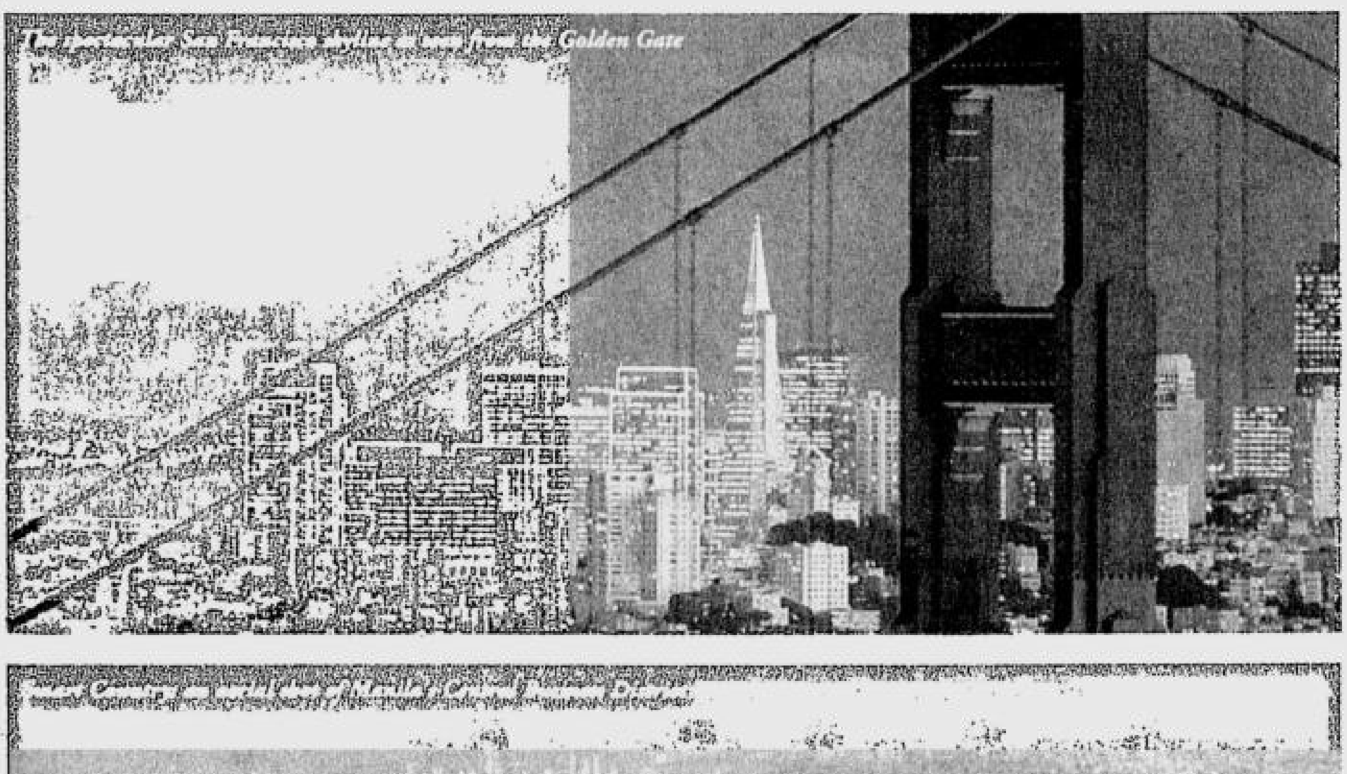
To what extent should the country's leading wireless network bend over backwards to satisfy and pamper its most loyal subscribers? If the story of one high-flying Smart VIP subscriber (who prefers to remain nameless) is anything to go by, then it would be fair to dub Smart one contortionist of a company. The measures Smart took to throw out a lifesaver to a subscriber in distress on the other side of the Pacific was nothing short of heroic. This story is a perfect example of the good understanding Smart has of first-class customer service that puts them years ahead of its peers.

Jetting in to San Francisco for a series of power meetings was just another run-of-the-mill moment for our Manila-based VIP and his colleague. Being away from his workplace, it was his Smart tri-band celfone that kept him inundated with bits of news and updates from the office. Wary not to ever be incommunicado, he even brought a spare Smart tri-band celfone ready to be called to action should his main workhorse get lost, stolen or broken. But as bad luck would have it, it was his colleague's celfone that suddenly shut down and refused to operate. Lending a hand, the VIP offered his back-up celfone to his colleague only to learn that whatever it was that caused the celfone to conk-out was contagious: the VIP's back-up celfone wasn't working either. That meant the colleague had no means of touching base with business back home while the VIP attended the meetings they flew in for. Realizing the catastrophic effects this situation could bring, the VIP phoned the Smart VIP Group back home and explained the situation. A replacement could be couriered in within 3 days, but it needed to be in San Francisco sooner than that. Rising to the challenge and determined to exceed subscriber expectations, Smart flexed its public relations muscle and before long, found an ingenious, albeit unconventional way to get the replacement to the VIP in just 13 hours.

A commercial airline pilot was all set to fly a 747 from Manila to San Francisco on a scheduled flight and agreed to hand carry the replacement himself. Within an hour of the VIP's call requesting a replacement, the celfone-to-the-rescue was on board the U.S.-bound flight. 13 hours later, the plane touched down in Frisco and the captain himself personally delivered the replacement to the astounded VIP.

It's situations like these where Smart goes that extra mile to make its subscribers feel appreciated and important, whether or not they're VIPs. By continuing to treat their subscribers with unmatched courtesy and efficiency, it's no wonder Smart is closing in fast on their 9 millionth subscriber.





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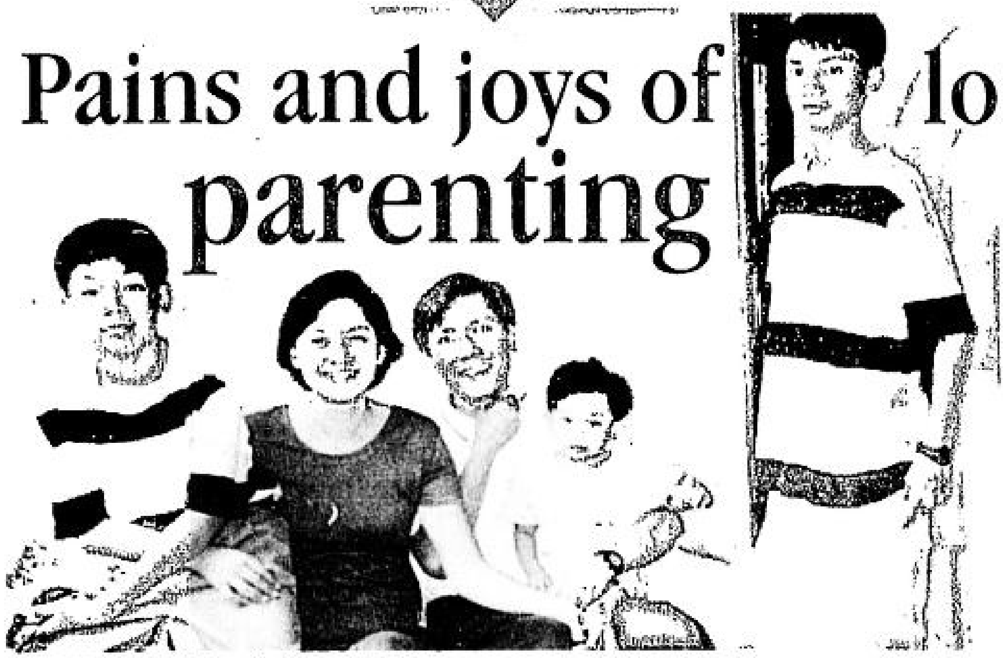
# Pains and joys of long-distance parenting

OFW families strive to maintain their integrity and unity in the face of geographical separation and emotional estrangement



THE MELENDRES family: (from left) Ted Leonid, Lani, Teddyvic with Ted Sergei and Ted Andrei

By Rowena C. Burgos

AN INCREASING number of Filipino migrants are parenting their children from a distance. In order to provide for their families, they must leave them behind and take advantage of the better job opportunities abroad.

Everyday, overseas workers are overwhelmed by feelings of helplessness. They are trapped in the painful contradiction of being separated from their families but having to depend on the material benefits of such a separation.

A former migrant worker, Teddyvic S. Melendres, INQUIRER Libre's editor in chief, worked as a sub-editor at the then Hong Kong Standard, which is now called The Standard, from 1994 to 2001. His salary was six times what he used to earn at Daily Express, Manila Standard and People's Journal.

"I was already 34 then and I thought that I still didn't have my own house and lot. So I talked to my wife Lani and we agreed that we had to make a sacrifice so we could fulfill our dreams," Melendres said.

Lani used to work as a bank secretary and then a teacher at Miriam College's Child Study Center. When she became pregnant with their eldest son, Ted Andrei, Melendres asked her to stop working.

## Pain of separation

On the day he was to leave for Hong Kong, Melendres tightly embraced his children, Ted Andrei, who was four years old then, and Ted Leonid, 3. While he was crying, they were giggling.

"They were too young to understand it, but I realized that I wouldn't be able to see them for at least a year. Lani was also very sad, but remained emotionally strong."

During his two-week stay in a Hong Kong hotel, he kept thinking about his family.

"I often went to a park near the hotel to listen to their recorded messages and read the cards, which they created. I often cried while reading their letters and listening to their voices. But after three months, I learned to adjust and focused on my work."

Without a doubt, parenting from a distance has emotional ramifications both for parents who leave and children who are left behind. The pain of family separation creates various feelings, including helplessness, regret, and guilt for parents, and loneliness, vulnerability, and insecurity for children.

Melendres struggled to make up for the absence by regularly keeping in contact with his wife and kids. To fulfill his fathering role from afar, he compressed time and space and attempted to counter the physical distance in the family via the telephone and letter writing. He phoned and wrote his wife and children three times a week. In doing so, he kept abreast of his children's activities and at the same time achieved a certain level of familiarity and intimacy.

"We talked about toys, what they did at home and if they were helping their Mommy with household chores," Melendres said. As the years went by, the topics of conversation shifted from toys to his children's objects of affection and school activities. Lani, on the other hand, wrote to him four times a week. "For her, it's the best means of nurturing our relationship."

Although the Hong Kong Standard's newly hired employees could only take a vacation after a year of employment, Melendres was able to visit his family on Christmas of 1994, 10 months after he was hired. "Our chief sub-editor was a Catholic who understood my situation," he said. "My wife and children were truly surprised upon seeing me on Christmas day. But we all felt sad when I had to return to Hong Kong before New Year's Eve."

## Staying in touch

For seven and a half years, he'd visit his family every three or four months for a period of three days. Or his wife would visit him in Hong Kong thrice a year, with the children in tow in summer. "Even then, my children and I were not able to have quality time because I went to work while they were vacationing in

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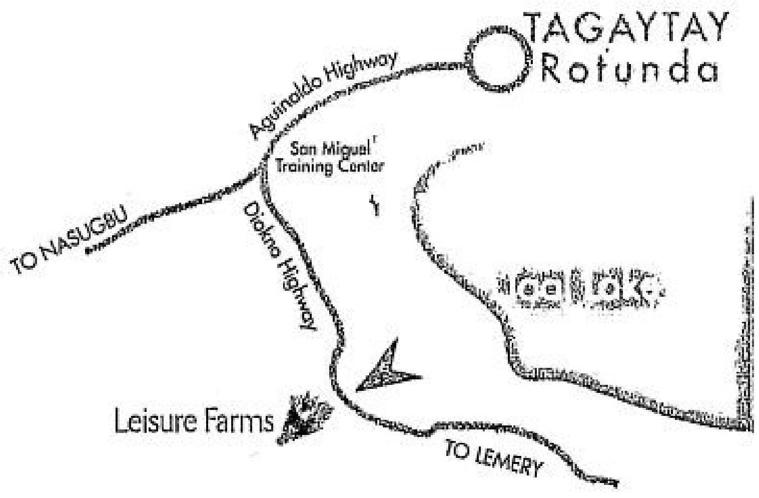

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# The case for family meals

StephB
ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

**By Grace Shangkuan Koo**
*Contributor*

FIVE years ago, my husband and I, together with our kids—aged 12 and 9 then, were enjoying our dinner inside a glass restaurant along the French Riviera in Nice. An English gentleman approached us and surprised us by saying he had been observing us for quite sometime. He said he had noted, with envy, our animated conversation and spontaneous laughter and lamented that families nowadays (at least in Europe) rarely take meals together, not to say, really enjoying each other as much as we did.

That compliment was one of life's unexpected gifts. Even today as we take our meals, I pause to capture in my mind the faces and voices of our family.

But whatever happened to family meals?

Sitting down to eat together is the most important activity of family life, according to developmental psychologists. More so, it is a blessing few people truly treasure.

A couple of years ago, there was a campaign in Hong Kong and Taiwan using colorful billboards and catchy jingles—messages from kids urging, "Father, come home for dinner."

In busy Manila, it is not uncommon for families to miss out, habitually, the experience of a family meal.

I seldom miss family dinner. Even if my husband and I hold our jobs at two different work places, we have taken lunch together almost everyday for 22 years now.

Having to miss family meals has made me reconsider many decisions in my career.

When I have to travel abroad even for a few days, the thing that I miss the most is the family meal.

## Family stages

It was not always like this.

When our kids were infants, meals were a mess. As toddlers, taking a meal was like a marathon for both the child and caregiver, testing each other's endurance and patience.

The mealtime tug-of-war and power struggle with bribery and haggling, made me wish there was no need for meals.

As the kids learned to talk, then to converse, later to question, assert, and articulate their observations and opinions, I found out I enjoyed being a good listener.

There is a festive mood even with the plainest food. The warm feeling one has in holding our hands together in a circle as the head of the family says grace makes up for any disappointment one may have experienced during the day.

I hope this picture will stay forever. We are four in the family—father, mother, daughter, and son—table for four is just perfect!

More and more psychological studies show that family meals help prevent teen problems

But kids will grow up and they will have to move on, maybe to another country.

I see families whose old parents are too sick to converse or family members squabbling during family meals. They make mealtime a struggle.

Family meals tell the closeness of a family. They show how we value our family, how we enjoy each other's company.

My childhood memories are mostly about laughter during mealtimes and long talks in travels.

Our late father, busy as he was, enjoyed having long meals with us; he even had lunch at home traveling to and fro his office. He understood that work would always be there, but kids are only young once, and he wanted to be present.

## Benefits

If the reader still does not sense any nostalgia for family meals, maybe these research findings may convince her.

A recent issue of the American Psychological Association's publication, APA Monitor, reported that family meals prevent teen problems.

Family mealtimes are strongly related to the development of a well-adjusted teenager.

Psychologists Blake Sperry Bowden and Jennie M. Zeisz found that adjusted children (those who have dinner with their parents for an average of five days a week) were less likely to take drugs or be depressed, were more motivated at school, and had better relationships with their peers.

Research has also shown that eating dinner as a family gives children and adolescents a much healthier diet.

Regular eating with the family means children are 50 percent more likely to eat recommended servings of fruit and vegetables, less likely to drink soft drinks and fried foods away from home, and have substantially higher intake of vitamins, calcium and iron.

School performance, communication skills and psychological well-being are also improved by having family meals together.

Children from families taking meals together feel loved and important, are more sociable, and less prone to peer pressures.

## Tough choices

Saying yes to family meals may mean saying no to many other things—another hour at the office, a business social, extra-curricular committees, hanging out with a *barkada*, another sports practice, etc. It involves tough decisions and tough commitment.

But in the end a strong sense of family identity, security of routine for children, significance of knowing self-worth, the bonding, laughter, sharing, learning, understanding and caring—which are fostered by taking meals together—will outweigh whatever little "sacrifices" one has to give up to reclaim the rightful place of family meals.

Celebrate your family, every day!

*Email the author at grace@koo.org*

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# Pains and joys of long-distance parenting

From page E1

Hong Kong."

So on the day Lani gave birth to their youngest son, Ted Sergei, who's now three years old, Melendres went home to experience the joy of such a momentous occasion and make up for lost time with his wife and two older sons.

Melendres was able to withstand the hardships of separation because of the financial gains that he had achieved in migration. On his sixth year in Hong Kong, he was already able to save enough money to start the construction of their dream house in Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

Unable to provide Ted Andrei and Ted Leonid, now aged 14 and 13, respectively, with daily acts of paternal endearments, Melendres felt insecure about the emotional bonds in his family.

"The kids were already teenagers and I thought that it was important to be with them." So he ended his contract in 2001 and came home.

Most migrant workers feel a surreal timelessness during separation; they are suddenly catapulted back to reality the moment the family reunites, Melendres says.

He's close to his kids but since he has missed the growing years of Ted Andrei and Ted Leonid, Melendres admits feeling a "stranger" to them. "I noticed that whenever they have problems, they'd rather tell their mother about them. I was a bit hurt," he says.

"*Iba pa rin na magkasama kayo kaysa sa* phone *lang*. So when I went home in 2001, I started to focus on building my relationship with my children."

Because of the estranging effects of the separation, Melendres often feels an insurmountable loss over his long absence from the family.

"While I was working abroad, my relationship with my kids was a whirlwind one," he says. "I didn't realize that I was too far away from them emotionally, even if we often talked on the phone."

But Melendres says he does not feel guilty about having to work abroad "because it was a mutual decision. We wanted to prove to our relatives that we could manage to build our own house and provide our children with good education."

Although he eased the barriers that spatial distance has imposed on his family, Melendres still feels that intimacy can only be fully achieved with great investment in time and daily interactions in the family.

At present, Ted Andrei is in second-year high school and Ted Leonid is in first year at the Dominican School of Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

"The children are good in arts but until now, they still don't know what to take up in college," the proud father says. "But I wish that one of them would become a doctor. I myself wanted to become one, but since my parents couldn't afford it, I took up Engineering instead."

Despite his long absence, Melendres is determined to make up for lost time and to enjoy fatherhood. "As to our relationship," he smiles, "they've been opening up and sharing jokes with me now."

*E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph*

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# *Starting the young on passion for leadership*

**By Butch Jimenez**
*Contributor*

EVER since I first got my hands on "The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader" by best-selling author and acknowledged leadership expert John Maxwell, I've been a fan. I have most of his books and when I'm in need of a pick-me-up or just some plain old business sense, I invariably reach for a Maxwell book.

Maxwell has written over 40 books, including leadership classics like "21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership" and "Failing Forward," which have both landed on the New York Times best seller's list and have sold millions of copies worldwide.

Maxwell's book, "17 Indisputable Laws of Teamwork," is the "bible" of NFL coaches in the US, and a "must-read" for NBA teams and referees.

Maxwell speaks to over 350,000 people a year through leadership seminars, lectures and conferences. He is seen and heard by over 3.5 million people a year via live satellite simulcast.

In his Manila engagement, Maxwell filled the Cuneta Astrodome with more than 10,000 "leadership-hungry" Filipinos, 5,000 more of whom had to be turned away.

Top business leaders, including US President George W. Bush, read and refer to his books or call him for leadership wisdom.

Business school students would probably write about how John's SWOT analysis was right on the mark. They would admire how he adroitly manages his finances, markets his books and his persona, and in the process, manages to lead everybody to the top with his vision.

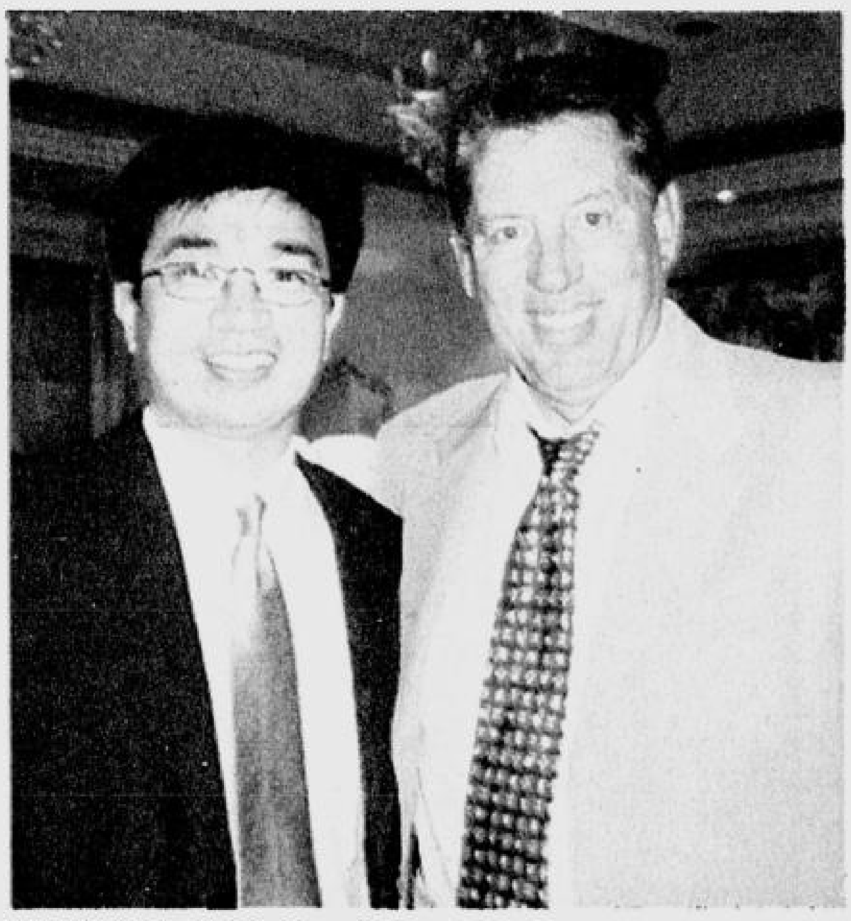
Asked how he has got to where he is today, Maxwell answered, "God has been good to me."

"When I talk," said John, " I'm going to sound like I had everything worked out. I will sound better than I truly am. But the truth is, I look back and realize that I am where I am today because God has been good to me."

## Legacy

Fueled by God's goodness in his life, John set up his foundation, Equip, to "equip leaders to reach our world." Equip conducts conferences worldwide to empower leaders to excel.

It was in Manila where Maxwell chose to launch his grand passion—to train a million leaders throughout the globe on how to train others to become leaders in their own spheres of influence.


THE AUTHOR with John Maxwell.

Best-selling author John Maxwell says the new generation of Filipino leaders looks toward values and character as a platform to lead rather than power and wealth

"This will be my legacy," said Maxwell.

What will define him, he said, won't be his best-selling books or the awards he has received, but in having trained a million leaders and having exponentially multiplied their skills and talents in others, so that a new generation of leaders can steward the world through the future.

Maxwell said that while there are many people that hold leadership positions, there are few true leaders. He singles out servanthood as what defines the heart of a true leader.

"The mark of a true leader is a passion to serve and build up others to the point of sacrificing your own personal wants for their sake and benefit, " he said.

In his classic, "The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader," Maxwell writes, "To get ahead, put others first."

Maxwell also encourages leaders to "love your people more than your position."

## Tip for the youth

During his recent lecture series in Manila, the number of young people who attended the seminars encouraged John. To him, it was a sign that a whole new generation of Filipino leaders was looking toward values and character as a platform to lead rather than power and wealth.

Maxwell's message for the youth is never to settle for average: "Nobody pays for average. While young, always strive for excellence."

"Have you ever asked your wife to dinner at an 'average' restaurant?" he asked. "Once inside the restaurant, have you ever asked for an 'average' table or requested for an 'average' waiter to give you an 'average' tasting steak?"

"Nobody pays for average. And with the level of competitiveness rising today, if you are average, you are no longer good enough. Someone who is excellent will always overtake you," Maxwell said.

## Simple sense

I have read almost all of John Maxwell's books and what I like about them is that they make "simple sense." Every point he makes is simple, and each point makes sense.

For example, when John talks about communication as a quality of leadership, he simply says, "Without communication, you travel alone."

His simple point for generosity is that like a candle, "it loses nothing when it lights another."

About responsibility—a crucial quality for leaders—he says, "if you won't carry the ball, you can't lead the team."

Self-discipline is a must for all leaders because "the first person you have to lead is you."

The ability to learn also ranks high in Maxwell's list for leaders because "to keep leading, you have to keep learning."

Vision is of great importance for leadership because, as Maxwell simply puts it, "you can seize only what you can see."

## Favorite

If I could choose a favorite Maxwell book, it would be "Failing Forward." It's a book on how to fail successfully.

I know it sounds like an oxymoron or a paradox, but when you read the book, it will show you that failure—depending on how you handle it—can be your best friend.

About "Failing Forward," Maxwell likes to joke, "It's my only book that's written for everybody. Everybody has failed at one point in his or her life."

Maxwell argues that just because you've failed doesn't mean you're a failure. Failure isn't a percentage, a grade, or a single event. Failure is a process. When losers fail, they believe it's forever. When achievers fail, they see it as a momentary event and not a lifelong epidemic.

"Failing Forward" encourages people to look at failure straight in the eye, then move forward. For Maxwell, there are two ways to react to failure. Either you fail forward or you fail backward. Here's a brief checklist:

Real winners, says Maxwell, have big dreams. But to achieve your dreams, you must make failure a regular part of your life. If you're not failing, chances are, you're probably not really moving forward.

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# Dolphy joins fund-raiser for kids

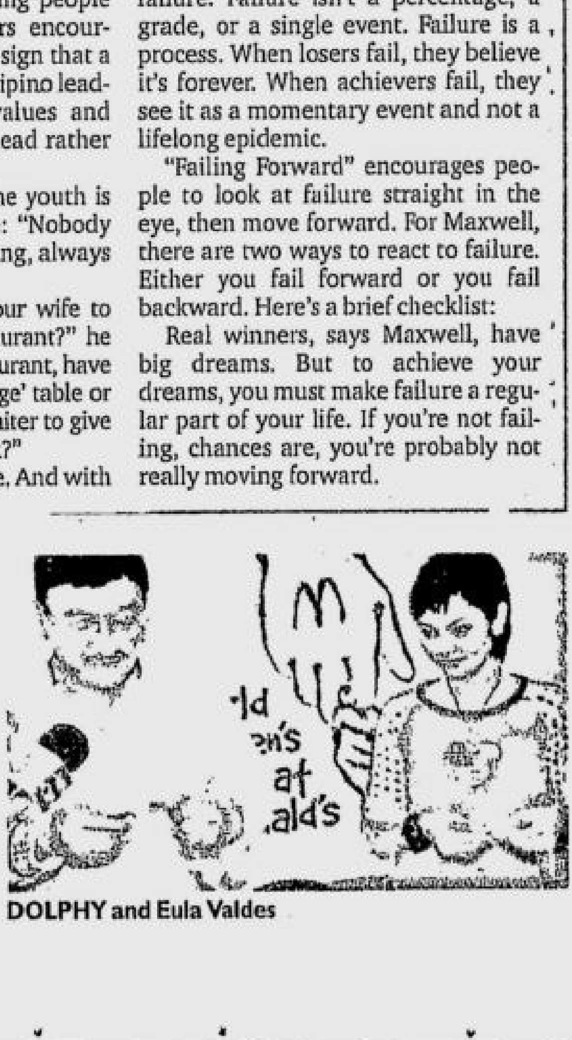
OVER a hundred countries marked recently World Children's Day at McDonald's, a global fund-raising initiative for the benefit of the Ronald McDonald House of Charities (RMHC).

The event was organized to help alleviate the living conditions of children all over the world. Aside from enjoying their favorite McDo meal, people who visited the restaurant contributed to the worthy cause.

Filipinos shared in both the fun and charity goal. For only P5, customers bought a Christmas tree ornament were they wrote their wish—or wishes—for the season and hung it on McDonald's Wishing Tree. A percentage of proceeds from the sale of ornaments went to the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

At Greenbelt, even comedy king Dolphy participated in the celebration. Also spotted was *telenovela* star Eula Valdes.

Both Dolphy and Valdes scribbled their wishes for the season before hanging the ornament they bought.


DOLPHY and Eula Valdes

# Holy Jesus, it's the Santo Niño!

From page E4

del Sto. Niño as a timely break from all the crises engulfing the nation. He explains people could offer their tribulations to the Santo Niño.

Hans says people have calendared the last Sunday of February for the annual parade, which has become an annual ritual.

"There was a time when we moved the event to the first Sunday of February instead of the last Sunday of January. People lined up along Roxas Boulevard while vendors had already put up their mini-stores in anticipation of the parade. So the people got mad. That's how important this event has become," recalls Hans.

Making the Fiesta del Sto. Nino 2003 extra-memorable is the holding of the 4th World Meeting of Families in Manila. Hans says thousands of delegates to the important event, organized no less by Pope John Paul II himself, would get to witness for themselves the drama and pageantry of the religious celebration.

Fashion leader Ben Farrales, founding chair of the Congregacion, describes the festivity as a family event.

"This year's festivities add more significance with the focus on the family and the Lord's place within the family," he says. "The Congregacion itself is a family, with our patron, the Nombre, as the center of the family. To reach out to as many people as we can is but a small task in return for all that He has meant to our family."

This year's Fiesta del Sto. Niño has gathered some of the best-looking images showing certain characteristics that Filipinos could very well relate to.

Those who were blessed enough to see the exhibit on the third floor of the Philippine National Bank Financial Center at the Diosdado Macapagal Highway would say the Sto. Niño is definitely for everyone.

The exhibit showed the regally attired Prince of Peace (in silver and royal-blue robe) and the naked but no less striking Bambino Jesus Hijo de la Virgen.

There are also different icons depicting the working Filipino in various occupations, such as the Sto. Niño the Great Chemist, the Sto. Niño the Fish Vendor, Sto. Niño de Magbabaka, Sto. Niño de Virameca (seamstress), Sto. Niño de la Policia, Sto. Niño de Pintor and Sto. Niño Rey (violinist).

"Every year the owners want to put out something different and display their creative talents," Hans says, explaining the explosion of Santo Niños in various guises and costumes. He added the creative adventure extends to outfitting the *carrozas* that will carry the icons during the parade.

The Fiesta del Sto. Niño 2003 will culminate at the Luneta Grandstand, where there will be a blessing of the icons and children, followed by a display of fireworks.

STO. Niño Dormido of V.C. Berroy

STO. Niño de Atocha of Noli Hans

## *Special park rates for family assembly participants*

ENCHANTED Kingdom will give special admission rates to the participants of the 4th World Meeting of Families at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Until Feb. 3, the participants of the assembly may purchase Enchanted Kingdom Ride-All tickets for a discounted price of only P200. To avail of the special rates, participants must present their convention identification cards at the Enchanted Kingdom front gate. A participant may purchase a maximum of 10 tickets that must be used on the date of purchase.

The park is back to its regular operating hours. It is open Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Saturday, Sunday and holidays, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Shuttle services are available at the Ayala Center terminal. Buses leave Makati at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., plus a 2:30 p.m. departure on weekends. Departure from Sta. Rosa is at 7 p.m. on weekdays, and 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. on weekends.

Call 830-2111 to 16 or 843-6073 to 78.

## FEU marks 75th year

FAR EASTERN University, one of the countrys 'biggest institutions of higher learning, will mark its 75th founding anniversary this week. Theme of the event is "FEU at 75: Legacies and Challenges."

The university was founded in 1928 by scholar-educator Nicanor Reyes Sr.

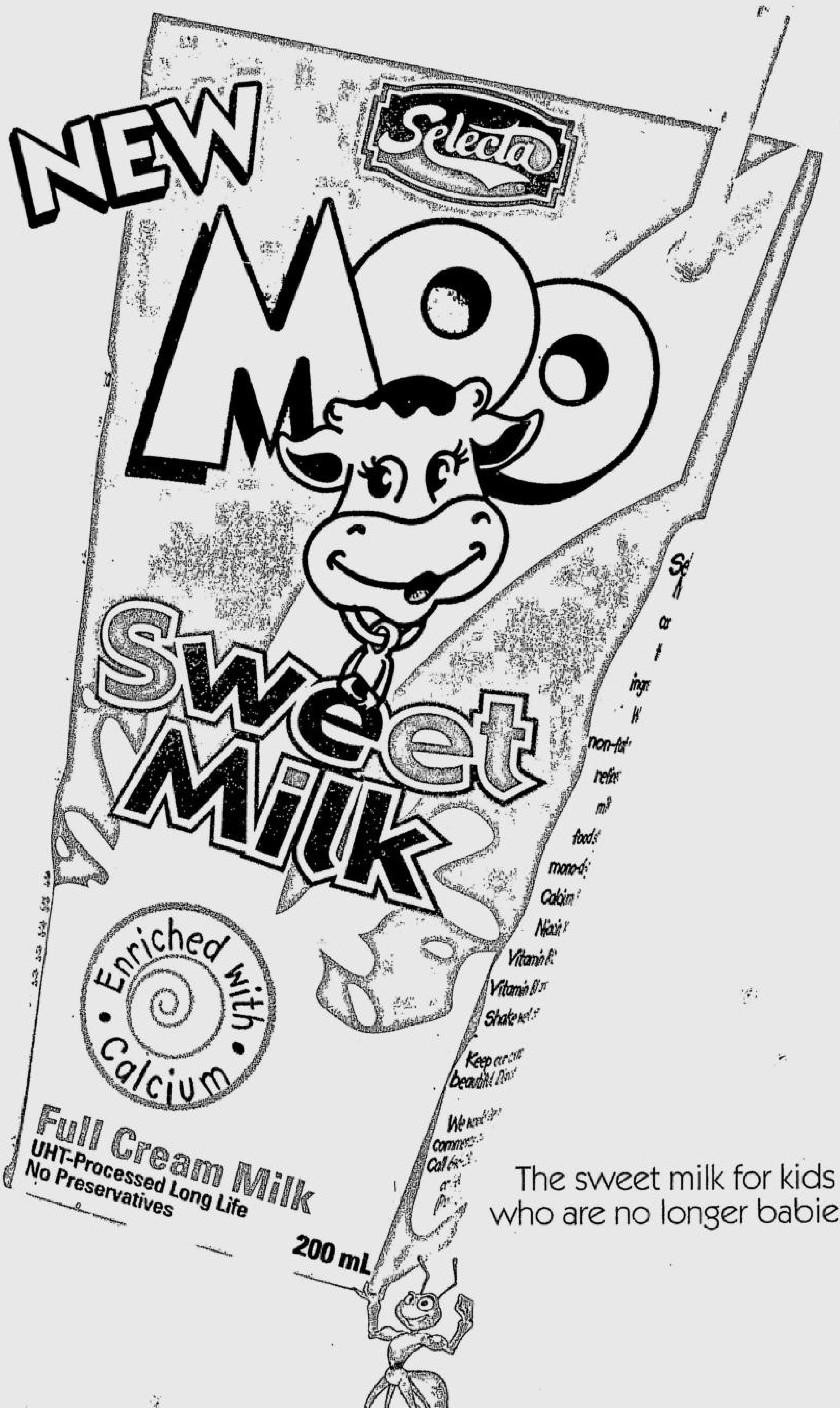
Activities begin on Jan. 27 with a floral offering at the Manila Memorial Park and the unveiling of a commemorative marker honoring Reyes.

A thanksgiving Mass at the FEU chapel, opening of exhibit booths, blood-letting, on-the-spot painting competition, and a public speaking competition, "The Nicanor Reyes Challenge" will follow.

On Jan. 28, the Institute of Accounts, Business and Finance will hold an expo. The book "Art and Culture @ Far Eastern University," designed and edited by Alfredo R. Roces and Sylvia Roces-Montilla, and the commemorative stamp designed by Marge Bumatay, will be launched. The new engineering buildings will also be blessed.

On Jan. 29, anniversary lectures will be held at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Student recognition, employee-faculty, and alumni awards will be given morning, afternoon and evening, respectively, on Jan. 30.

Jan. 31 will feature a parade, sports intramurals, cheering contest, "Dance Attack" and the "Student Band Concert."



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RFM

# Holy Jesus, it's the Santo Niño!

**Text by Dexter R. Matilla**
*Contributor*
**Photos by Val Handumon**

THOUSANDS of Catholic devotees will converge today on the Roxas Boulevard as over 500 icons of the Santo Niño from all over the country make their parade to close the extended celebration of the feast of the Holy Infant Jesus, one of the most colorful and joyous of feasts in the Philippine Catholic calendar.

Coincidentally the parade marks the 24th anniversary of the Congregacion del Santisimo Nombre del Niño Jesus, the association that has been organizing the yearly exhibit and parade of Santo Niño icons in Manila.

The Santo Niño has always been part and parcel of Filipino folk Catholic culture. The devotion is traced back to 1521 when Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan landed on Cebu and gifted the image to the newly baptized Queen Juana and King Humabon.

When the Spaniards returned to the islands in 1565, they found the icon still intact, widely venerated by the people.

Since then, the Santo Niño had emerged as a vital religious icon and devotion that paralleled the spread and growth of Catholicism in the country.

As in recent years, the 2003 Fiesta del Santo Niño will once again feature a wide array of beautifully adorned images of the Child Jesus in different garbs and titles in a parade that will snake from the Philtrade grounds to Roxas Boulevard.

The only difference this year, according to top fashion designer and Congregacion member Nolie Hans, is the number of participating Santo Niño images and *carrozas*, which has reached an all-time high.

From a mere 50 or so *carrozas* in its maiden year in the 1970s (the parade's starting point was Nayong Filipino), the quantity of participating icons has multiplied tenfold.

Film director Mel Chionglo, who joined the Congregacion in 1981, sees the Fiesta

HOLY/ E3

> Today's parade of some 500 icons of the Holy Child serves as an unscheduled, spectacular finale to the World Meeting of Families

JHS-In Hoc Signo of Tony Adriano

STO. Niño the Fish Vendor of R. Garcia

STO. Niño de Oliva of Ben Farrales

STO. Niño de Palaboy of German Malabanan

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

# Real Tessa wannabes

## The ultimate wannabe has spawned copycats as colorful as she

By Tessa Prieto-Valdes

A GOOD campaign for a retail store is one that clearly delivers the message and generates better sales. On both counts, I don't think my current participation in the Anonymous campaign meets these criteria.

But my ad did work up a lot of commotion and was talked about the most, which I believe turned out to be a better outcome. In fact, it created such a stir that it had to be pulled out, reformulated and changed for another. And all that happened in just one week.

The campaign featured five personalities, each of us chosen for the diversity of the fields we are in. The main concept is that all five of us are "famous" but would not mind being Anonymous at times. All had their individual tag lines: "Gary Valenciano, A singer. Judy Ann Santos, An artista. Phoemela Barranda, A model. Wesley Gonzales, A baller. And Tessa Valdes, A wannabe."

All the tag lines were self-explanatory except for mine. A wannabe. What exactly did that mean?

When I first saw it, my thinking was that the tagline meant, "I wannabe Anonymous but failed."

I believe that is what Ben Colayco of Artpost Asia wanted to relay to the viewer as well. Ben took charge of this whole campaign and said mine was the most difficult concept of all.

### Off the concept

The concept group was wrestling with mine mainly because I have such a carefree spirit and do not mind calling everyone's attention to myself. In short, my personality is totally off the core Anonymous concept.

Another difficulty had to do with the term "wannabe" itself. There is a dark side to being a wannabe, the implication of wanting to be something that is unachievable. In short, "TH."

Several people pointed out to Ricco Ocampo, owner of Anonymous, that I am certainly not "trying hard" to be someone other than myself. (Thank you to all of you!)

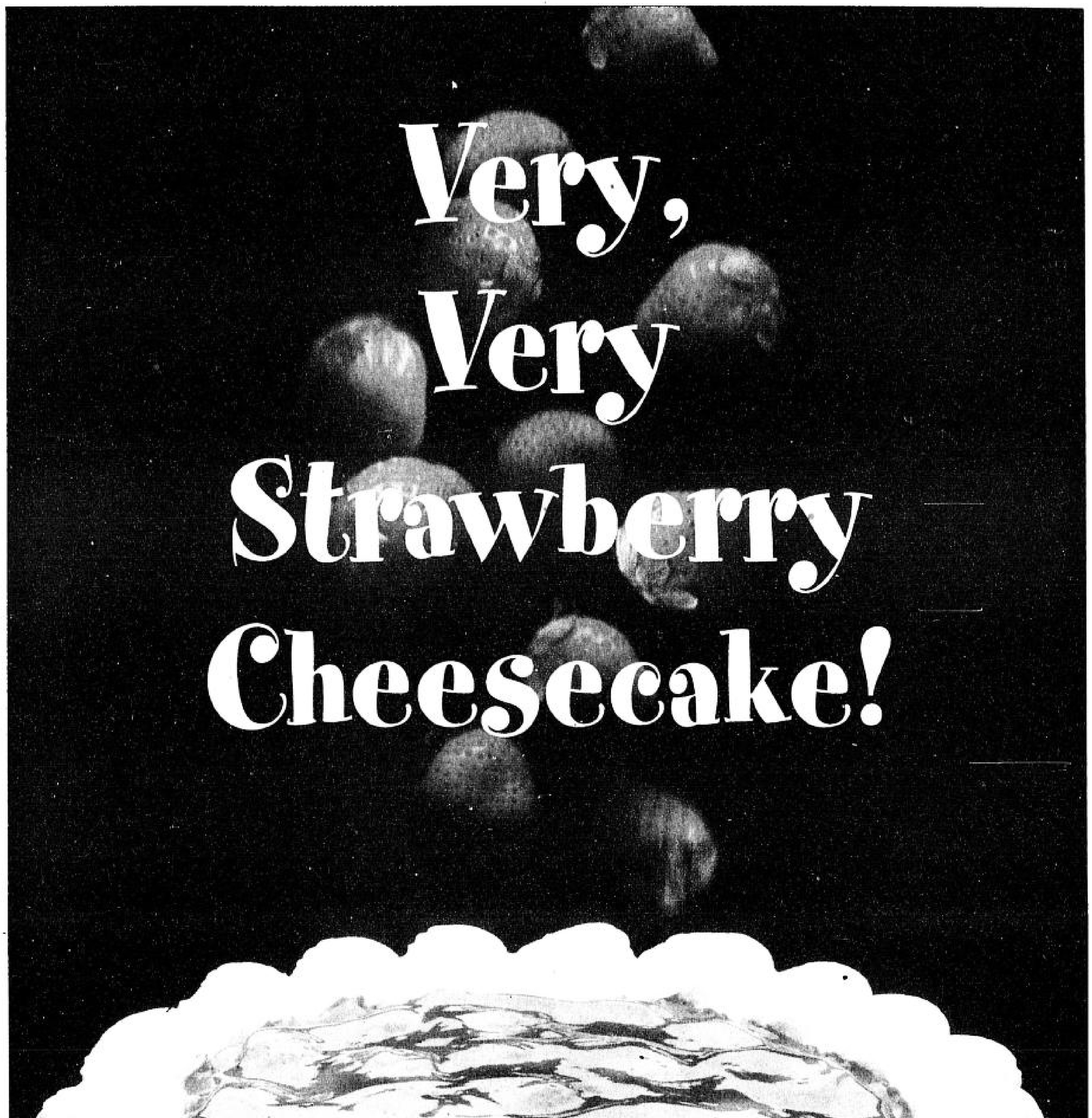
After so much controversy, big boss Ricco decided to just ditch "wannabe" and change it to "A Stand Out." So now, whether that sells their merchandise or not, only the accountants doing Ricco's books can tell.

But as for me—instant fame! A gigantic billboard of my larger-than-life face, taken by Neil Oshima, is posted all over. I really didn't mind the brouhaha; I am just happy to be a pin-up model for once in my life.

Last weekend, Ricco and Tina invited me to their house for their post-Christmas company party. Restaurateur Rikki Dee had told me about their parties in the past, but this was the first one I ever attended.

Right after yoga class, I jumped into a fairy skirt by Kate Torralba and a top by Patrice

REAL/ F4


Very, Very Strawberry Cheesecake!

Fall in love with our freshly-picked Strawberry Cheesecake! The most luscious strawberries in sweet syrup and whipped cream on top of the cheesiest of cheesecakes on one crusty base. Try it! Now in season all year round.

Red Ribbon BakeShop
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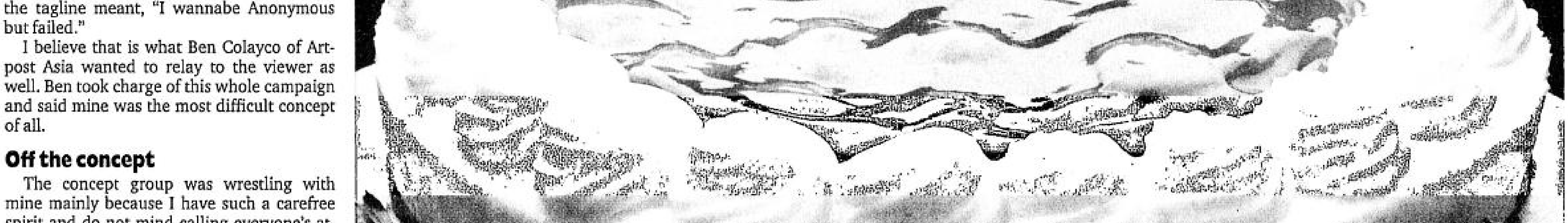
Cream Silk MAKE OVER MILLIONAIRE!
Win P1 million instantly!
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Buy a Cream Silk sachet today!
Promo ends Febuary 28, 2003
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LBC

**PRESIDENTIAL** daughter Luli Arroyo, Martin Nievera and Keren Pascual

**PEACHY** Veneracion and Lucy Torres

**ANGELIKA**, Mico Palanca, Derek Ramsey and Vina Morales

**BEN** Chan, Sonny Tanchangco and John Gaddi

**POPS** Fernandez and Gretchen Barretto

# Famous for more than 15 minutes

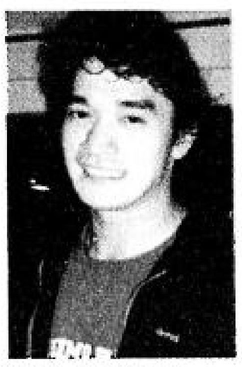
**TEESAW**

*Raul Teebankee*

"FAMOUS" became a byword in the '70s when the late Andy Warhol coined the phrase "everyone will be famous for 15 minutes." But organizer **Keren Pascual** has taken the term to a whole new level. During the last two quarters, it denoted a select group of people who went to Boracay and two voyages on board the Star Cruises.

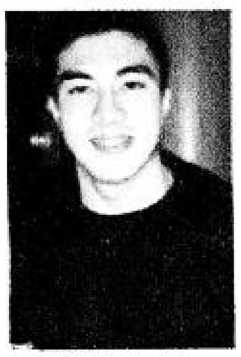
Today, Famous is a dessert bar in Greenbelt 3.

Presidential daughter **Luli Arroyo** headed the guest list of movers and shakers who attended its opening. From the world of entertainment, **Martin Nievera**, **Pops Fernandez**, **Gretchen Barretto**, **Dolphy** and son **Eric Quizon**, **Korina Sanchez** and **Lucy Torres Gomez**, scions **Doris Magsaysay Ho**, **Vicky Fernandez Zubiri** and **Anton Huang** with beautiful wife Nina, corporate head **Boy Martires** of Smart, couturiers **Inno Sotto** and **Joe Salazar**, fashion retail giants **Berni Liu** of Penshoppe and **Ben Chan** of Bench, entrepreneurs **Anton Barretto**, **Anne Calero** and **Leah Puyat**, **Lucky Manzano**, **Mico Palanca** and **Carlo Maceda**, coach **Chot Reyes**, architect **Gil Coscoluella** and **Rosanna Prieto**.


**CARLO** Maceda

**BERNIE** Liu

**INNO** Sotto


**LUCKY** Manzano

**CARLO** Gonzalez

**BOY** Martires

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4th World Meeting of Families

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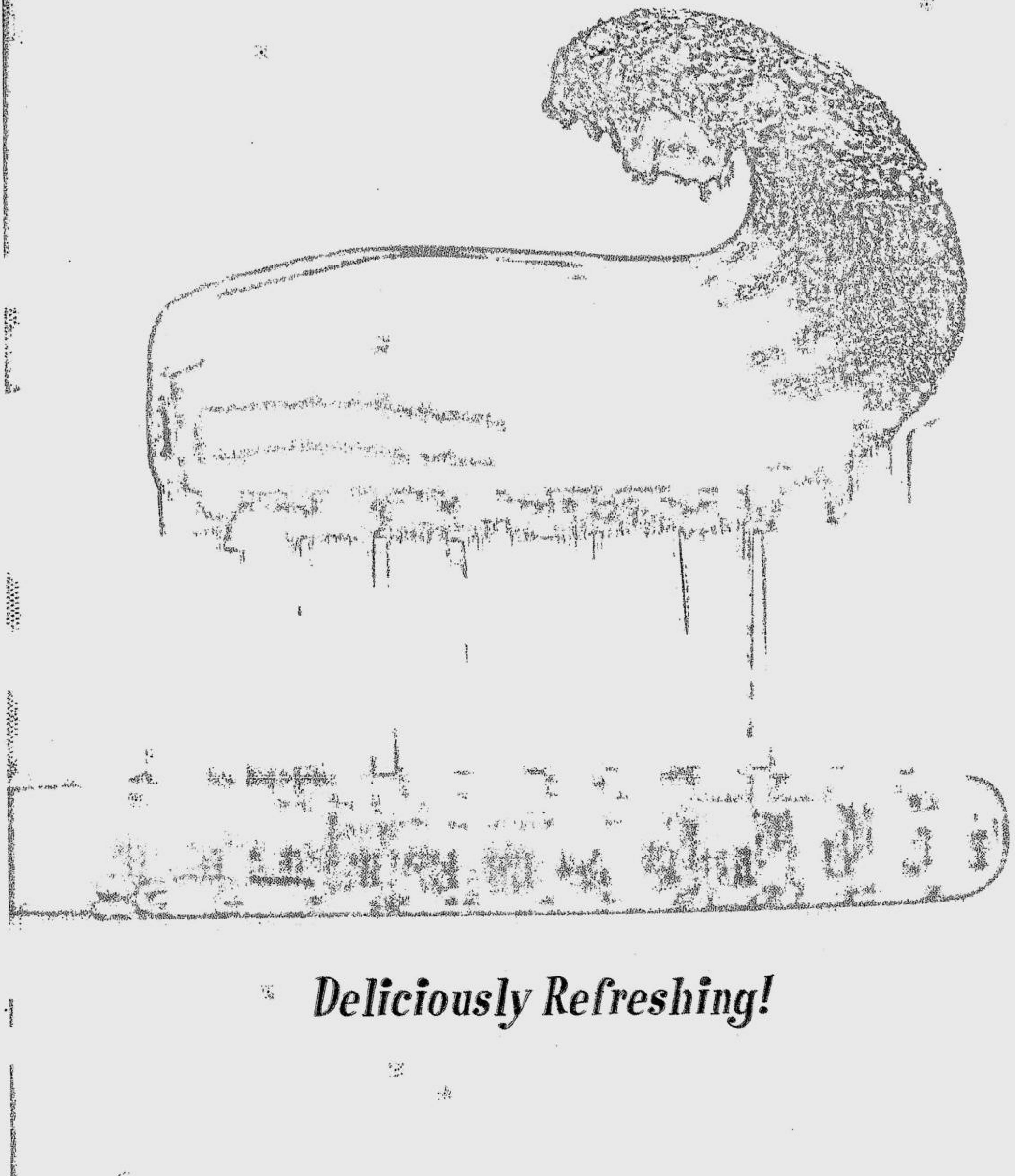
## *Makati mall in full bloom*

THE NEW Greenbelt will be celebrating its full opening on Jan. 31. Dubbed "Greenbelt in Full Bloom," the celebration will be an entertainment extravaganza featuring an array of foreign and local artists.

Guests will be treated to an hour of sought-after comedian Rex Navarette, aerial and hand-balancing acts from one of the US' best live performers, live music by Bo Razon, Jaya and the Ugoy-Ugoy band, DJ club music from Music One's Anton Ramos, and a fireworks display celebrating the new mall's popularity, a member of Ayala Land's family of commercial centers.

Opened to the public late in 2002, the new Greenbelt features a unique mix of the choicest retail, food and after-hours establishments, many of which have already become "the places to see and be seen" in the entire metropolis.

comedy
CLUB
Greenbelt Mall



*Deliciously Refreshing!*

**A surge of cool flavor in the first lemon-mint toothpaste from Close-Up.**

NEW Close up Lemon Mint

More flavorful trivia about Close-Up Lemon-Mint at www.closeupplanet.com

AND the winners are... Cristy Enierga, Louie Gereña, Gerwin Marquez, Osias Bayot, Antonio Antonio, Danish Adriano, the real Tessa, Glenn Araos, Jeff Magsajo and Cheers Meña

RICCO Ocampo and Angeli Pangilinan left all the singing to Gary V.

FROM the planet of the Tall People, Wesley Gonzales and Tina Ocampo tower everyone.

# Real Tessa wannabes

From page F1

Ramos-Diaz, sped off to the party and lo and behold, I arrived to a scene of Tessa wannabes prancing all over the Ocampos' lawn.

Ricco and Tina were having a contest for the best Tessa lookalike.

Needless to say, everyone was dressed to the hilt with hats, feathers, wigs and masks. I hosted a Miss Universe-type question-and-answer portion with a talent show. Glenn Araos won Best Ramp Model with his mega slit skirt and wide brim hat. Danish Adriano won in the Talent portion with his best dancing moves. He wore a matching 70s outfit with boots.

## Winner

But the overall winner was Cheers Mena, who must have gotten her stuff from the Anonymous warehouse (which she manages). With her mask and accessories, the other guests agreed with me that she was the obvious winner. Her happy disposition just set her apart from the rest.

If you think about it, I would never wear an Egyptian outfit like Louie Gerena did, or a micromini like Gerwin Marquez displayed, or a cleavage-showing Mariah Carey teeny dress like what Jeff Magsajo slipped on. But it was so enjoyable to see how far people would go for a fun contest. I gave all of them Urban Spa gift treatments for all their efforts. (They just have to stay in the men's section of the salon!)

The true star of the evening was Gary V, who performed for all of us. I was amazed to see his talent and energy up close. And to think that this is a man struggling with diabetes. One realizes how blessed he is and why he really sings from the heart.

JUDY Ann Santos and Ces Drilon help give out awards and jam with the band

POPS Fernandez and Jericho Rosales provided the first wave of entertainment.

Angeli Pangilinan, Gary's wife, told me that she once found him unconscious on the floor and had to administer mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to revive him. I wouldn't mind doing that to my husband Dennis, but not to give first aid!

Angeli deserves a Wife of the Year award.

Gary first sang with the band, then hit the keyboard and played name-that-tune, and even sang a cappella. Then he started his moves which got the whole group dancing.

He even raffled off several copies of his latest CD, which features all-instrumental versions of his compositions. Each song is performed and beautifully executed by different musicians. Most unusual and interesting is that by DJ Shytown of the "Look in Her Eyes" song.

"Hope" was the key word of Ricco in his closing speech to his 70+ senior managers that evening. Hope in weathering hard times, hope in improving the quality of their lives and hope in keeping the success of the business. And he said he could not have gotten to where he was today without his trusted staff.

So in case I ever decide to change my profession, I "wannabe" working for Ricco because there is definitely a lot of hope in his books.

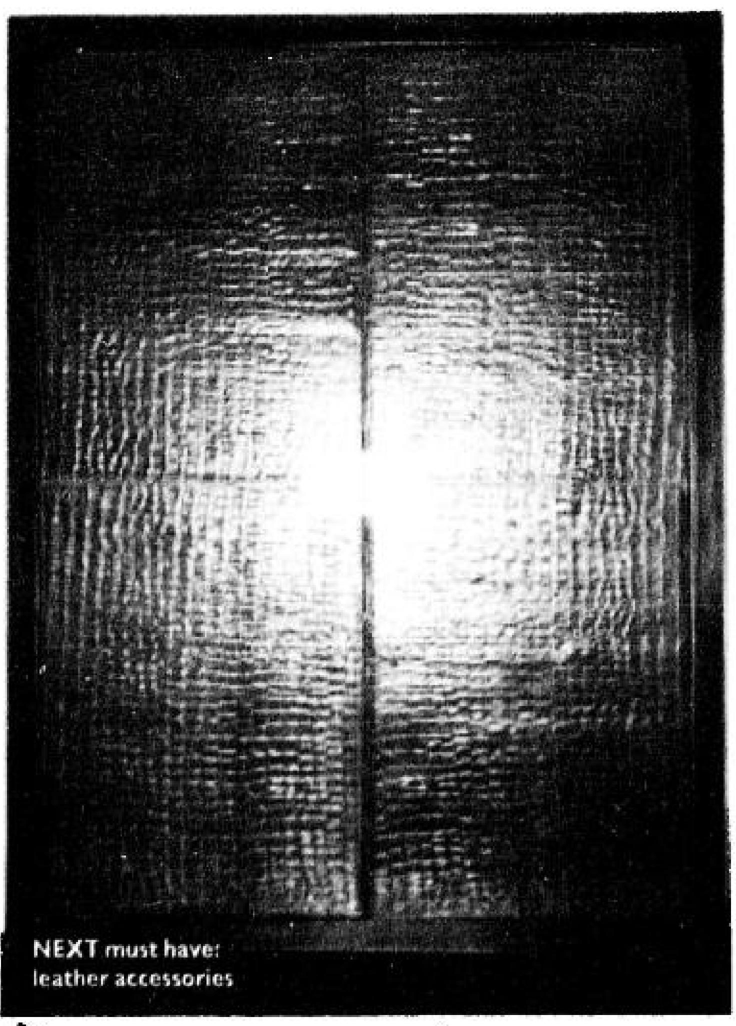
GARY V. was just awesome generating high energy with the Light N Easy band

**Erratum:** In my story on the Mely Hechanova party, it was Len Nepomuceno-Guiao who designed the gowns of her children and not Inno Sotto.

In my story on the wedding of Udsie and Marty Villarica, our proofreader mistakenly put down Renato Tantoco when we meant Renato Enriquez. Apologies to Len, Inno, Renato and the others.

# Leather's not just for wearing

### The newest boutiques and homes around the world are using leather for accent pieces



NEXT must have: leather accessories

**T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS**

*Anton San Diego*

Must-have furniture from 'skin'. Tired of that Christian Liagre look (think: wenge or dark brown wood everywhere), which has been the design du jour for the last five years in Manila? I mean everywhere you go—apartment, house, salon or restaurant—it's wenge all the way. After awhile, I think we got the picture and realized it's time to move on!

The next must-have: leather furniture and accessories. If you check out the newest boutiques and homes around the world they are using leather for accent pieces, replacing wood, steel, and other materials.

So when a friend told me about the new shop that sold these exciting pieces, I had to check it out for myself. The store is called 'skin' and is owned by the family of architect William Coscolluela. I marveled at the modernity, craftsmanship and style of the items.

We all know leather is worn. As home furnishing i.e floors, doors, ceilings, cabinets, etc., it is very stylish and sophisticated. The quality of the leather is also remarkable. They use Italian cowhide, boarskin, smooth pull-ups and horse hair and all in full grain (take it from me, others don't!). Aside from selling its own designs, 'skin' wants other designers to also use the material.

So it's time to rethink your decision to buy that dark wood and consider the beauty of fine grade leather. Skin is located at G/F Palisades, 107 Perea St, Legazpi Village, Makati City, tel. no. 817-7818.

**Ultimate skateboard.** You won't believe this but one of the leading manufacturers of automobiles and motorcycles has designed the ultimate in status symbols for, well, teenagers and Peter Pans (older men who refuse to grow up)—the BMW skateboard. Called the "StreetCarver," it boasts of the same precision and suspension concept of other BMW products allowing the rider to go fast and make graceful turns. Those who tried it said the feeling was akin to riding a surfboard or snowboarding. Estimated retail price is $475.

THE ULTIMATE SKATING MACHINE. BMW's Streetcarver

MODERN, stylish and sophisticated leather furniture

**Golden Globe watching.** Although it may not have the prestige and pageantry of the Oscars, the Golden Globes is still worth watching. I was so happy that Richard Gere and Nicole Kidman won and loved Jack Nicholson's announcement that he popped a Valium! And for the more important who wore what, I thought Cate Blanchett and Kate Hudson (who both wore Valentino) were standouts! Worst dressed was clearly The Practice's Lara Flynn Boyle, who looked like a member of the Swan Lake chorus. She was clearly in the wrong venue!

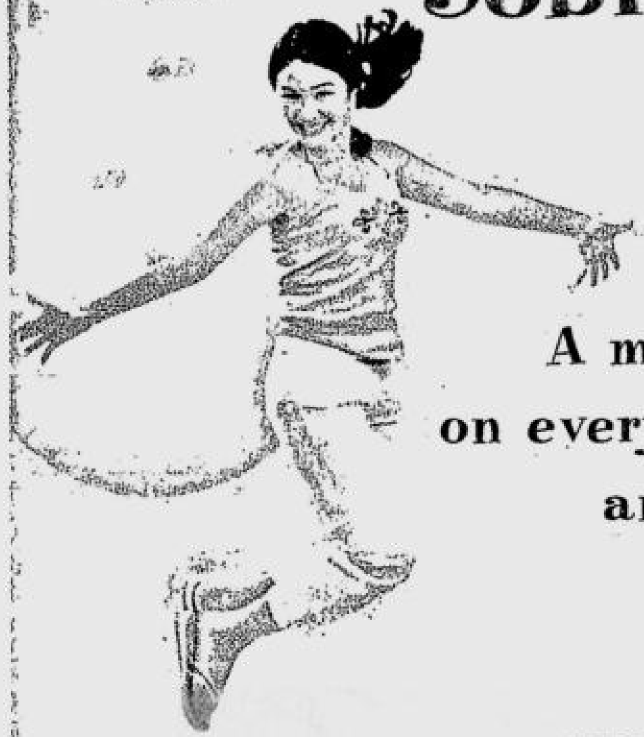
**Controversial ad.** Tom Ford's latest Gucci ad, after his controversial YSL M7 and Opium ads, has a female model pulling down her lingerie to reveal a bikini that has been shaped into a 'G'. This new ad has again caused an uproar in Europe and will only run in select magazines. Who says hype and fashion are not perfect bed mates? So what's next? Maybe Tom should copy Yves Saint Laurent's famous pose in the '70s where he was buck naked. Now that would be great, kind of exploiting the exploiter.

**Must-go to restaurant—Morita's.** On a Wednesday night my friends invited me to this new place, which they tried and were raving about. I consider it a trek if I have to go to any place that is two miles from my home and office. Although I was hesitant at first because it was on Pioneer St. in Mandaluyong, I decided to go thinking it would be a great time to

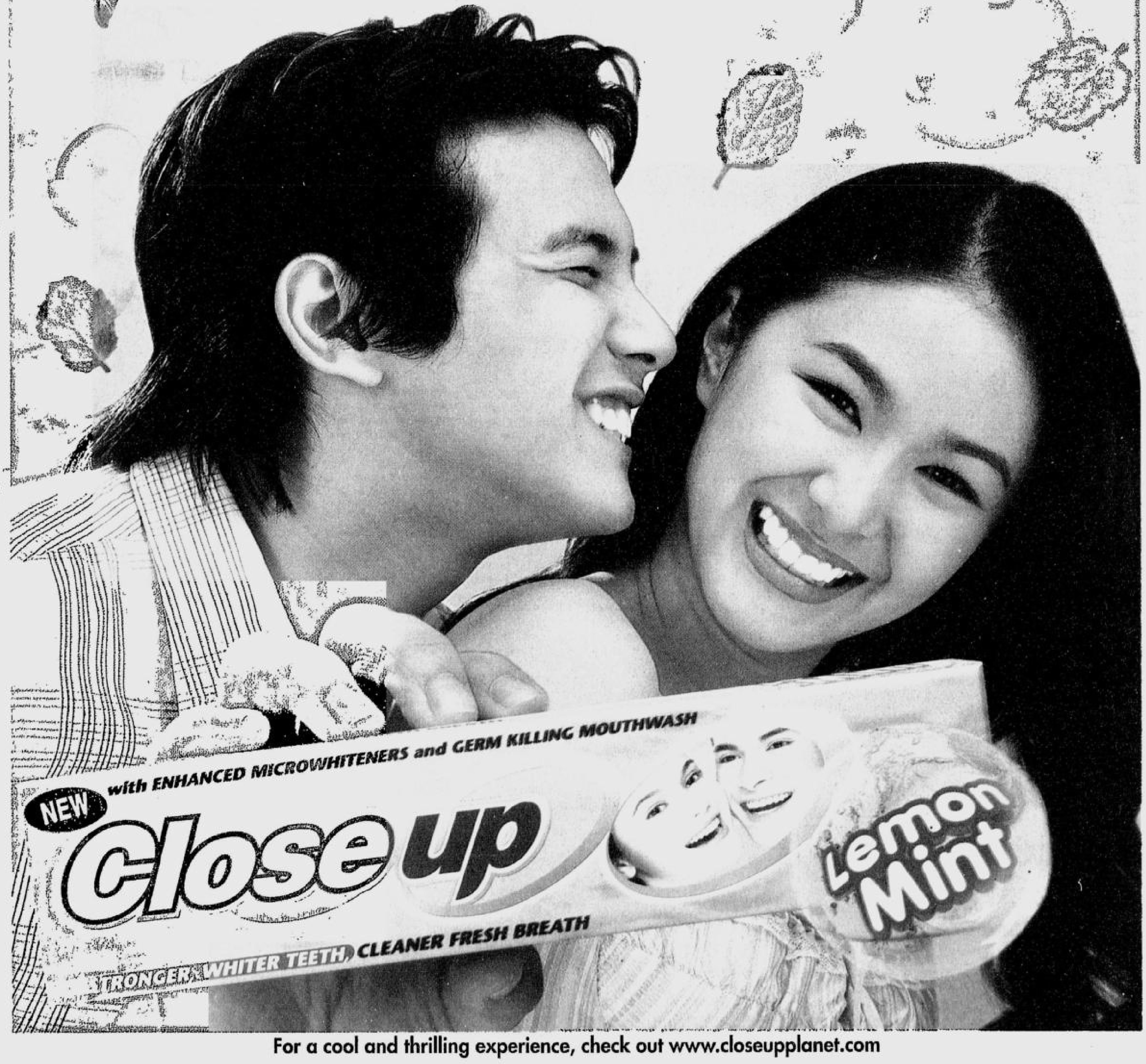
LEATHER'S/F7

Nakakakilig na **Lemon!**

Sobrang cool na **Mint!**



A mouth-watering mix that is bound to be on everybody's lips. Plus fluoride for strong teeth and real mouthwash for fresh breath.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Close up
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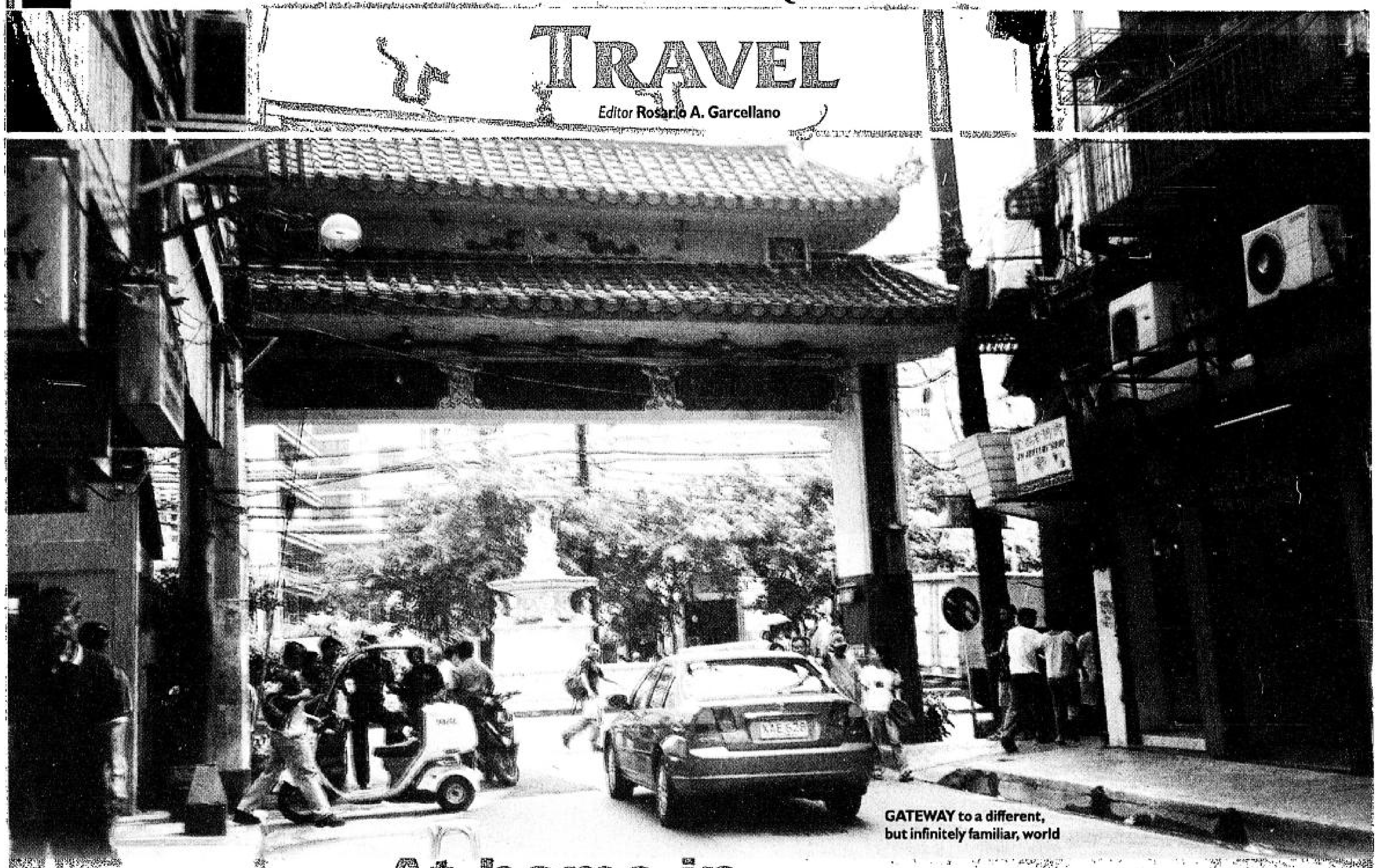
# TRAVEL

Editor Rosario A. Garcellano



**GATEWAY** to a different, but infinitely familiar, world

# At home in Chinatown

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

GRANTING there is such a place as a twilight zone, this area sandwiched by C.M. Recto Avenue, the Pasig River, Rizal Avenue and Juan Luna Street in old Manila must be it.

One cannot help but entertain the thought because one step into Chinatown makes one feel as though transported to another place and time. I certainly felt something like it during a recent walking tour of its narrow and winding streets, with some members of the Chinese Filipino Business Club (CFBC) as my guides.

Outdoors, most of the people look like they just came from the mainland. They converse animatedly in Hokkien, the language of the Fujian province of China where most Chinese Filipinos trace their roots.

The pharmacies near Ongpin Street, such as the 60-year-old Tek Sing Drug Store, sell none of the usual brands but an assortment of herbs and animal body parts touted to be cure-alls. Look a little closer and some shy Chinese merchant may even show you prized items such as frog's testicles, deer penis and rhinoceros horn that promise to cure everything from infertility to cancer.

Feel like taking in a movie? There are small shops that offer Chinese films, and not just your stereotypical kung fu flicks, for rent.

The newsstands also catch the eye, as English-language broadsheets take a back seat to Chinese magazines such as the World News and the United Daily News.

One may even see a store where the calendar appears to be about a month late because it follows the lunar cycle.

Even the air is different, carrying whiffs of sweet-smelling incense from the burning joss sticks offered to Buddhist gods or long-departed ancestors. And some of the street names have dragon designs in the English and Chinese language.

**GLITTERS** at the Gold Strip

Why has Chinatown been able to retain much of its character through time? According to CFBC director and secretary general Henry Sy Soan Ui, it's because of the value with which the Chinese have always held their culture, one of the oldest in the world, as well as the clannishness that allows them to find comfort and protection in one another.

Sy says Chinese families, mostly from Fujian in southern China, came by boat to this part of Manila in the 1800s in search of greener pastures.

Most of them settled in what are now San Nicolas and Sto. Cristo and engaged in trade with the Filipinos, in the same way their forebears did as early as the 10th century, even before the Spaniards came to the Philippines.

As the first settlers successfully made a living for themselves, they wrote to their relatives in China and encouraged them to come to the Philippines and work for them in their new stores or factories.

"Because the Chinese are very clannish, they stayed together. They wanted their family members to be with them as much as possible. This, I believe, was how Chinatown came about, and why the Chinese concentrated in this area," Sy says.

This also explains why certain trades remain concentrated in specific Chinese families.

For instance, the Go family, which counts taipan John Gokongwei as a member, is known for dealing in candy or confectionery items. On the other hand, the Dys sell lumber, the Chengs operate junk shops, and the Tys are into textile (the original business of the family of George S.K. Ty of Metrobank and Toyota).

As the settler-families grew, with new arrivals building houses or eventually their own shops beside the original one, whole streets became engaged in a single trade.

"The Chinese concentrated in one area because they felt secure with one another, and family has always been important," says Sy. "For one thing, they did not understand the language, and for another, the Chinese want to stick to their clans."

As a result, the visitor on a quick walk through Chinatown today will see mostly jewelry shops clustered along Ongpin, hardware and furniture shops on Tomas Pinpin, and spare-parts outlets on Gandara. Tomas Mapua was once known for its walk-up brothels, although most have closed shop to give way to, shall we say, more wholesome commercial pursuits.

Juan Luna was also known as a premier financial district until the 1950s and 1960s, when its businesses were enticed to move to Makati. The area was the birthplace of the Makati Stock Exchange and many of today's big banks, such as Equitable Bank and Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co.

Aside from business savvy, the Chinese immigrants also brought with them their Buddhist religion.

One of the famous temples that still exist today is the Seng Zuan temple along Narra Street, headed by 95-year-old Sui Kim, and the temple to Kuan Guong, which stands for justice and fairness.

Expectedly, the inevitable intermarriage and trade with Filipinos put some Filipino touches to Chinatown.

Testimony to this is the devotion of many Chinese to the Catholic Church, thus the beauty of the 300-year-old Binondo church where the first Filipino saint, San Lorenzo Ruiz, himself partly Chinese, once served.

This likewise explains the enduring popularity of such restaurants as Savory near Escolta, where many Chinese Filipinos enjoy a unique take on fried chicken.

The 150 or so Chinese schools that dot Chinatown have also taken to teaching major subjects in English, although the curriculum is still heavy on the Chinese language and Chinese culture.

It is this culture that Filipinos have so readily absorbed through the centuries-old association with Chinese merchants. The fact that *hopia*, *pancit*, and *mami* are part of the Filipino's vocabulary is enough proof.

And one of the best occasions where Filipinos and Chinese Filipinos come together in cultural interaction is the celebration of the Lunar New Year, which on this year of the goat falls on Feb. 1.

On the eve, Chinatown's numerous restaurants—including the famous President restaurant and the 50-year-old Ling Nam—are expected to be filled with families attired in red, exchanging the latest family news over a Chinese lauriat.

Businessman Domingo Chung says it is on this night that a grandfather hands over *ang pao* (red gift envelopes) to his grandchildren, with money inside worth at least P12 going up in multiples of 12 to P120 or P240 or P360 depending on his generosity. (The Chinese usually avoid odd numbers because they may bring bad luck.)

**COMMUNING** with the divine

Chinese Filipino families will also be expected to distribute that sticky delicacy *tikoy*, which, Chung says, is given at this time to friends to symbolize close relationships.

Dante Go describes the eve of the Lunar New Year as the equivalent of the Christians' Christmas, which is celebrated by kith and kin.

Culminating the celebration is the Lunar New Year festivities, which this year will be highlighted by a 100-member acrobatic show from China, sponsored by the Chinatown Development Authority and the various Chinese federations, and the traditional lion dance to drive away evil spirits and bring prosperity all year long.

Chinese Filipinos will also troop to the Seng Zuan temple to seek the priest's blessing.

Sy says the temple has the most expensive real estate in Binondo because the 4x8-inch wooden plaques bearing the names of ancestors on one altar cost a hefty P50,000 each.

I mull over this and other information from my guides as I dig into my sizzling tofu in the Hap Chang restaurant at the end of the tour.

After the hearty meal, I thanked my guides not only for helping me gain richer knowledge of Chinese Filipinos but also for making me feel, well, right at home.

## TRAVELBRIEFS

### Tourism Cup

THE FEDERATION of Golf Clubs (Philippines) Inc. (FGCPI) is opening the doors of the most prestigious golf courses in the country in response to the initiative of the Department of Tourism to promote the Philippines as the "Golf Capital of Asia."

The FGCPI—composed of the general managers of The Orchard, Eagle Ridge, Eastridge, Valley Golf, Riviera, Sta. Elena, Mt. Malarayat, Evercrest, Sherwood Hills, Manila Southwoods, Forest Hills and Canlubang Golf and Country Club—has thrown its support behind the DOT-organized Philippine Tourism Cup (PTC), the biggest amateur tournament in local golf history.

The yearlong tournament will be held in virtually every region in the Philippines where there are attractive golf courses. Winners of the regional qualifying rounds will meet for the national championship to be held in December.

Under the agreement, FGCPI members will block off selected dates and open their courses to participants of the qualifying round of the Southern Tagalog leg of the PTC. They will also lower their green fees to a flat rate of P1,000.

Other world-class golf courses in the country have welcomed the holding of the qualifying rounds and regional championships within their boundaries.

The tournament is open to all Filipino amateurs and is being marketed worldwide to attract both international and amateur golfers. The PTC executive director, Assistant Tourism Secretary Salvador Sarabia Jr., and his co-executive directors, Philippine Tourism Authority Deputy General Manager Jose Dion Diaz and Assistant Tourism Secretary Theresa I. Martinez, are overseeing the event.

For inquiries, call the PTC secretariat at 536-1133 and 523-8411 to 20 local 183.

### Reopening

THE RENOVATED Taal Vista Hotel, a Tagaytay City landmark, reopens its doors this month as the Barceló Hotels and Resorts' fourth property outside Metro Manila.

To mark the reopening, the "Barcelo Taal Vista Break" offers guests a 40-percent discount on the preferred rate and complimentary breakfast.

For inquiries and reservations, call the hotel's Manila sales office at (02) 867-1159 or fax to (02) 867-1185.

The Barceló Group's other properties are the Barceló Pearl Farm Island Resort in Samal Island, Barceló Sarabia Manor Hotel and Convention Center in Iloilo and Barceló Asturias Hotel in Puerto Princesa.

### Getaway tour

TRAVELERS are invited to join the "Kuala Lumpur Getaway Tour" being organized by the Subic Legend Resorts and Casinos.

For P9,999 per person, the package tour includes round-trip economy passage via Air Asia airlines, three days and two nights accommodation at the Grand Seasons Hotel, a half-day guided city tour, two breakfasts, one dinner and two-way hotel-airport transfers. Flights will take off from and return to the Subic Bay International Airport.

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia's capital, is home to the 88-story Petronas Twin Towers and a host of other tourist attractions. The former British colony is also a showcase of the perfect blend of Oriental and Western cultures and architectures.

The tours run until March. Price is exclusive of taxes, surcharges, insurance fees and other charges. For inquiries and reservations, call 732-9888.

# Leather's not just for wearing

From page F4

get my mind off work and have some good *kuwentos* with friends.

The restaurant is an imposing building in bright orange color with interiors that were colorful and eclectic. Tessa Valdes would be so at home there (found out later that the owner is related to her). The food was excellent. The restaurant has a set menu every day to which one can add a grilled dish—chicken, fish or beef. We had all of them and it was truly great.

So if you guys are tired of the eating establishments in and around Makati, try this place. Morita's is at 7 Pioneer corner Sheridan Sts., Mandaluyong City. Telephone no. 631-9620.

**You should be dancing!** At a get-together with my high school classmates, we got to talking about dancing. All of us were Denny Terio wannabes, in fact when swing was the "in" thing, we would practice during lunch break and see how many times I could spin around my partner. From our conversation we concluded that dances during our time (including our parents' time of cha cha, boogie, twist) were much more exciting than today's "individualistic" form of dance.

And wow did we have role models! We reminisced about the Aldeguer sisters who not only had their trademark dance steps but even made their mouths and hair "dance." What about Ray-Ann Fuentes and Mike Monserrat and that black dance thing they did? Oh and everyone's favorite (of course they won't admit it now), the WEA dancers who taught us to do the oh so glamorous "Metallic Gigolo" and "Cycling Punk." Honestly, no one could do the cycling punk better than Pia Moran!

It's funny that there were no second thoughts to doing those dance steps before but if tried to do them today, it would be like eating your third turtle pie, great idea but one more bite and you would puke!

Today when I go to a rave party, I can only last for 30 minutes max. It's physically exhausting plus I can't seem to follow the beat. Times have changed and although it's hard to repeat the past I just hope someone brings back the golden era of disco, any takers?

*E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com*

# *Edgar Allan celebrates 20 years*

DESIGNER Edgar Allan and business partner Rene Tiongco celebrated the 20th year of their business venture (now situated at Glorietta 1 of Ayala Center, Makati) through an invitational dinner and fashion show at the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel InterContinental in Makati recently.

Special guests were Chito Madrigal Collantes, who inaugurated the Edgar Allan Boutique at the Atrium of Makati with Elvira Manahan and Chona Kasten 20 years back; and Rosemarie "Baby" Arenas, who has sponsored some of Edgar's major fashion shows in the past.

Guests included loyal clients, designers and models from the fashion industry, friends and business associates. Letty Syquia, Ging Montinola, pediatrician Dr. Marysia Recto, Cherry Mapua Osmeña, and stage and TV actress Carmen Enriquez and Nene Leonor were among the early guests to arrive. Nenette Puyat, with daughters Mia Leonor and Maylee Arnaldo, eagerly awaited the show.

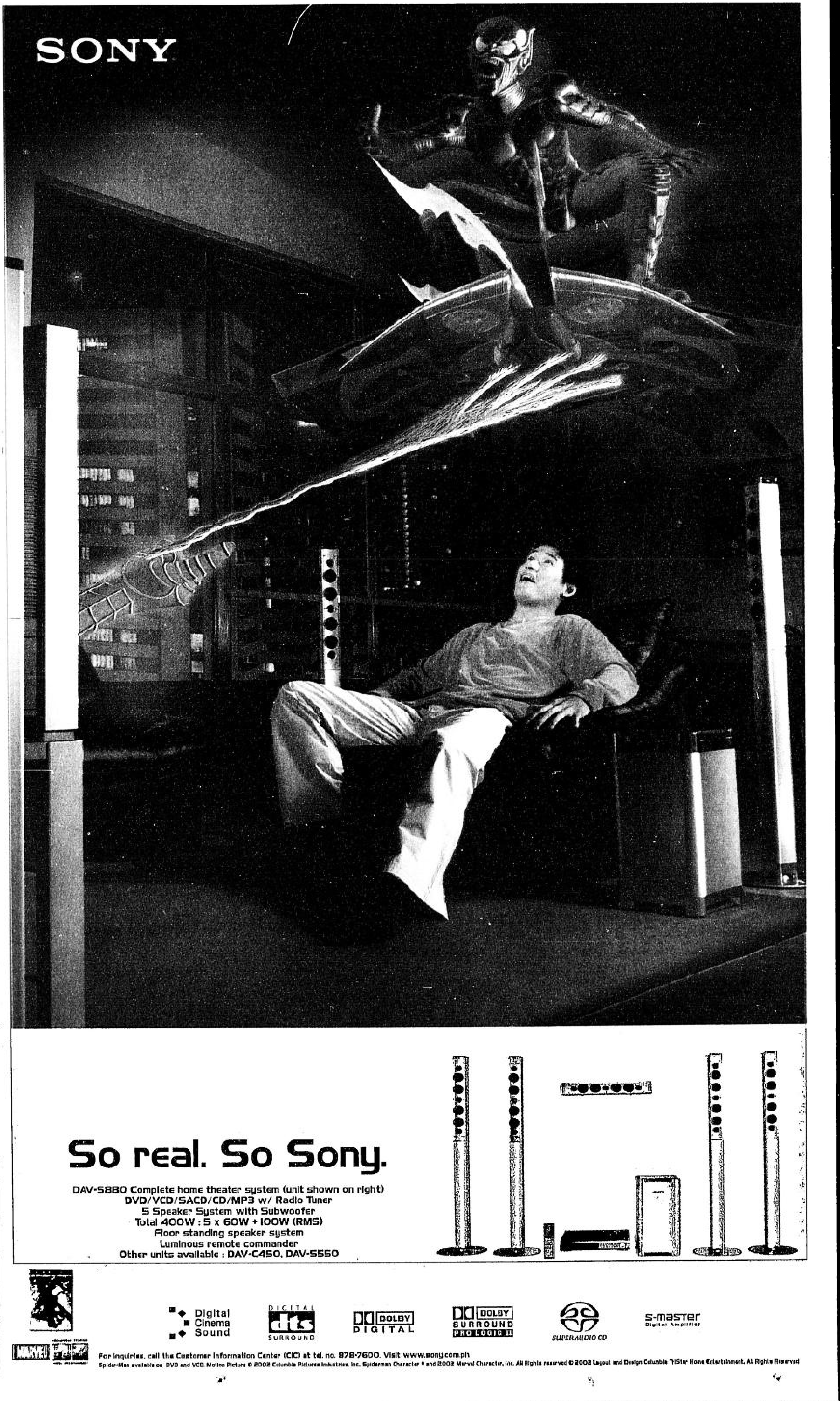
Manhattan dermatologist Dr. Tiongco, Rene's sister, flew in for the occasion with fellow New Yorkers Lily Morales and Mercy Yulo. Huddled on the table of Rene's mom Rosario were cardiologist Dr. Greg Patacsil with wife Norma, and surgeon Dr. Richard Tiongco with wife Doris. Spotted among the well-dressed guests were some of Edgar's past brides like Pia Mendoza Pascual of JAL, Gigi Rapadas and Sheila Roces, who was with hubby Martin of the newspaper publishing clan.

Deputy director Emilie Versoza Tiongco of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts also watched the show with her granddaughter Pia Rodriguez, daughter of Felicia Tiongco, also an Edgar Allan bride.

The show had 80 well crafted and elegantly styled evening wear, capped by a collection of a dozen wedding gowns. Designers Ben Farrales, Pitoy Moreno, Oskar Peralta, Nolie Hans, Barge Ramos, Edgar Madamba, Gregg Centeno, Lito Perez, Frederick Peralta and Renee Salud and models Alta Tan, Issa Gonzales, Marilen Espino, Emily Artadi, Selina Manalad and Sara Jane Paez were also present.

**GOLDEN** Globe's best dressed (from left) Cate Blanchett and Kate Hudson in Valentino and the worst dressed, Lara Flynn Boyle's tutu tata

**HOW'S THIS FOR BRANDING?** Controversial spring/summer 2003 ad from Gucci—'G' shaped pubes



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# An old Philippine friend may be next Spanish ambassador

**ISRAELI** Ambassador Irit Ben Abba

**GERMAN** Ambassador Herbert Jess and Amando Doronila

SPANISH Ambassador **Tomas Pantoja** said his farewells to Filipino friends, as well as those in the diplomatic corps, at a dinner in his residence after Christmas.

Among the guests were **Ana Olondriz, Conchita Simo, Mari Burao, Maricris** and **Nando Vasquez Prada, Frances Lim,** our favorite columnist **Baby Orosa,** the **Zobels** and **Roxases, Jaime Laya, Nena** and **Al Casimiro,** Consuls **Fortune Ledesma, Evie Costa** and **Helen Ong,** as well as **Marit** and **Tito Yuchengco.**

And, of course, there were Fr. **Pedro Galende,** O.A.R., and **Gemma Cruz-Araneta** enjoying the superb paella done by **Javier Lecumberi** of La Tienda.

The rest of the typical Spanish menu—*torta de patatas, croquetas* and, not to forget, the *jamon Serrano* were homemade.

**PIANIST** Jonathan Aner, violinist Matan Givol and cellist Ira Givol

## DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

*By Amiga*

Rumors have it that Señor **Ignacio Sagaz,** deputy chief of mission during Ambassador **Morales'** tenure, is going to become the next ambassador.

It might interest some of you to know that Señora Sagaz is the former **Aurora Lapuz.** Her family and friends are looking forward to welcoming back the couple .

* * *

For shame! It's bad enough that cultural events are few and far between for the poor Pinoy, but at Israeli Ambassador **Irit Ben Abba**'s presentation of the Tel Aviv Trio, **Jonathan Aner** (piano), **Matan Givol** (violin) and **Ira Givol** (cello), at the Manila Mandarin, dining on the mezzanine was allowed to go on, much to the distress of the musicians and the audience who had to put up with clinking glasses and flatware, cell phone users and giggling waiters.

Now you can see the results of the government's giving low priority to culture in its agenda. People don't know how to behave. Not only don't they give a care about culture, they're not even considerate of those who do.

This was a pity because the young musicians (all in their 20s) gave a superb rendition of Brahms Trio No. 2 in C Major, Op. 87, and a medley of Bedouin music.

* * *

Chair and CEO of SOS (Supply Oilfield Services Inc.) **Louis Paul Heussaff** and the company itself are paying women the supreme compliment.

On the occasion of its 25th anniversary next year, they are coming out with the book "Filipinos—A Tribute to the Philippine Woman."

The company also launched during a dinner at the Polo Club Jan. 16 a photography contest. Winning and other selected portraits—of *nanays, lolas, ales* in their natural environment—would be used in the book. Contest ends on May 17. Top winner gets a round-trip ticket to Paris and $1,000 pocket money.

The project is supported by the French embassy and French Ambassador **Renee Veyret.** Selected entries will also be part of an exhibit during the French Spring in Manila, June 18.

* * *

Fundacion Santiago launched at the Filipinas Heritage Library in December a first of its kind educational, interactive historical CD-ROM game for children. It tests students on the where, what and who of Philippine history in varying degrees of difficulty. It makes the game suitable for intermediate and tertiary students.

The CD-ROM, produced with the assistance of Agencia de Cooperacion Internacional Española and Avalon Interactive, features high-quality graphics and animation. It is available at museum gift shops and book stores.

**FR. PEDRO** Galende, Gemma Cruz-Araneta, former Ambassador Colome, Jimmy Yambao and Spanish Ambassador Tomas Pantoja

**LOUIS** and Vanessa Heussaff

**ALBERT** Santos and kids check out an educational CD-ROM game.

"I only trust Kimbies Plus.
Gawa ito ng Huggies."
HUGGIES
Kimbies Plus
DISPOSABLE DIAPERS
L 28
Ito'y talagang absorbent. At cool and comfortable si Frankie dahil sa high cut leg design nito. Practical na ang presyo, makakasiguro pa si Sharon sa quality. Mula sa Huggies.

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2003
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**Essential Qualifications:** College/University level or equivalent work experience; experience of work in a medical office/institution or similar environment at a supervisory level with demonstrated experience of working on computers within a network environment; demonstrated experience in delegation of work, setting of performance targets, performance of quality control evaluation; experience in dealing with the general public, ability to read, write and speak local language(s) fluently, ability to read, write and speak either French or English well.

**Desirable Qualifications:** Oral and written communication skills in French; some knowledge of Canadian Immigration processing and procedure.

**Rated Elements:** Knowledge of general medicine, pharmacology, medical investigations/procedures at nurse graduate level or higher, knowledge of general office procedures and practices; knowledge of word processing applications/ spreadsheet/PowerPoint; knowledge of society and customs of host country; ability to analyze and evaluate information from multiple medical and non-medical sources/evaluate operational significance of analysis/ provide recommendation-conclusion for action predicated on analysis performed/follow through on results of action taken; effective communication and interpersonal skills; administrative skills; adaptability.

**Conditions of Employment:** The successful candidate must pass an enhanced reliability and security checks, plus a medical exam and must accept the responsibilities required in the job.

Please send your applications in writing to:

**PERSONNEL OFFICER**
Canadian Embassy, 9th Floor, Allied Bank Bldg., 6754 Ayala Avenue, Makati City.
RE: MEDICAL SECRETARY

*** All applications must be IN not later than Friday, 13h30 January 31, 2003.**

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- Undergraduate degree from one of the leading universities
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## THE WORLD BANK

**"OUR DREAM IS A WORLD FREE OF POVERTY"**

Our client, **The World Bank Office** in Manila, aiming to realize their mission of having a world free of poverty, is inviting dynamic and top-caliber professionals with strong dedications to handle the following position.

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST (FMS)

***Scope of Position:***

The World Bank Office in Manila is looking for a Financial Management Specialist (FMS) who is a professional accountant (AICPA, ICAA or CPA) with international experience, a relevant bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or economics. At least seven years of post-qualification experience in financial management (FM). Public sector experience would be an advantage. The FMS will be assigned to the World Bank Office in Manila, on a two-year fixed term appointment. The FMS will report to the Central Operations Services Unit (COSU) of the World Bank Office in Washington D.C. and to the Manager for Operations and Country Services in Manila Office. The FMS will perform as a member of the various Tasks Teams of the World Bank financed projects, and in addition lead special purpose initiatives such as Country Financial Accountability Assessments.

***Duties and Responsibilities:***

1. Assess, certify and advise on the adequacy of the Borrower's and the World Bank financial management systems, and manage and monitor World Bank financed projects. This follows on the FM Cycle in projects and includes financial planning, strategies and organization, budgeting, policies and procedures, internal controls, accounting, financial reporting and auditing;
2. Assist the Borrower and Task Team members of the World Bank's financial management requirements, including monitoring and reporting criteria;
3. Participate in the assessment, selection and engagement of auditors of the World Bank financed projects;
4. Provide financial management guidance for the development of technical assistance programs and evaluate and monitor their financial implementation;
5. Assess periodic project financial management reports for financial performance, linkage to physical and other monitorable indicators, and general compliance with financial covenants;
6. Provide advice and support to Borrower and task Teams of the World Bank financed projects on matters affecting financial management, disbursement and accountability including the work of consultants and other contractors;
7. Ensure that the Borrowers provide auditors with all the pertinent information (including TORs and the World Bank's requirements) necessary to carry out their engagement. Review audited financial statements received, monitor the Borrower's compliance, ensure adequate communication with the Borrower and the Project implementing agencies with respect to audits and advise as appropriate;
8. Be part of the FMS team in the World Bank Manila Office.

***Selection Criteria:***

1. Knowledge of International Accounting Standards and International Standards on Auditing;
2. Experience and in-depth familiarity with public sector financial management and practices in the Southeast Asia region;
3. Experience with internal control systems and procedures (including familiarity with COSO) with the ability to assess such systems and recommend remedial action where necessary;
4. A good understanding of the review of financial statement including statements which link financial to non-financial information, and knowledge of financial ratios, their use in comparison with industry benchmarks and their application to particular circumstances;
5. Experience in auditing including assessing audit competence, and knowledge of what to do with respect to qualified audit reports and matters arising from management letters;
6. Understanding of information systems and the application of new information technologies;
7. Capacity to function as a member of multi-disciplinary team, search for common ground, and where appropriate recommend decisive action;
8. Ability to communicate effectively, in writing and orally, both English and Filipino.

Please send your application letter, with comprehensive resumé with details of your work experience, academic records, recent photo, references (at least three names with full contact details), and copy/ies of recently completed written paper/s to:

**KSearch Asia Consulting, Inc.**, c/o Karmeli Love Kintanar at 22/F 139 Corporate Centre, 139 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or email to kkintanar@ksearch.com.ph; fax to 893-6259

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## THE WORLD BANK

**"OUR DREAM IS A WORLD FREE OF POVERTY"**

Our client, **The World Bank Office** in Manila, aiming to realize their mission of having a world free of poverty, is inviting dynamic and top-caliber professionals with strong dedications to handle the following position.

## HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

***Scope of Position:***

The World Bank Office in Manila requires a highly competent, results-oriented individual to provide expert technical assistance and coordination skills related to the expanding World Bank-Assisted program in the Human Development sector, which includes the sub-sectors of education, health and social protection. Based in Manila, he/she is expected to travel frequently within the country. Initially, the appointment is for a two-year fixed-term basis, with a possibility for renewal. This position is subject to local recruitment and compensation package and offers attractive, challenging and professional growth opportunities in working within a global development organization. The selected candidate will be working with an internationally-recruited lead coordinator for World-Bank–assisted programs in the Human Development sector.

***Duties and Responsibilities:***

1. Provide expert technical assistance in the design and implementation of operations in the Human Development Sector as well as in policy development in the sector, with a particular focus on Education sub-sector;
2. Assist in coordinating World Bank activities in the Human Development sector in general and in the Education sub-sector in particular;
3. Liaise with, and provide information, to relevant national and local government units, NGOs, peoples organizations, academic institutions, private sector, international donor agencies, and other stakeholders on matters related to the Human Development sector in the country and World Bank assistance in the sector, with emphasis on the Education sub-sector;
4. Provide a leading or supporting role in specific lending and non-lending activities of the World Bank related to the Human Development sector, with emphasis on the Education sub-sector.

***Selection Criteria:***

1. Master's degree holder or higher in a relevant discipline, preferably in Economics, with a strong social sector background;
2. At least five years of proven track record in Economics (with social sector emphasis) or in Education; a mix of analytical and operational experience is desirable;
3. Demonstrated outstanding interpersonal and networking skills among various development stakeholders, with a strong understanding of the institutional, social, political and cultural issues in one or more of the Human Development sub-sectors, preferably in Education;
4. Excellent team player, with a strong client and results orientation, with a high degree of adaptability, and ability to work independently, with minimum supervision;
5. Proficient computer skills as well as excellent written and verbal language skills in English and Filipino.

Please send your application letter, with comprehensive resumé with details of your work experience, academic records, recent photo, references (at least three names with full contact details), and copy/ies of recently completed written paper/s to:

**KSearch Asia Consulting, Inc.**, c/o Dennis G. Bahia at 22/F 139 Corporate Centre, 139 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or email to dbahia@ksearch.com.ph; fax to 893-6259

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- PLC literate
- Goal oriented, self motivated and team player
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- Can work on shifts
- Willing to undergo extensive training

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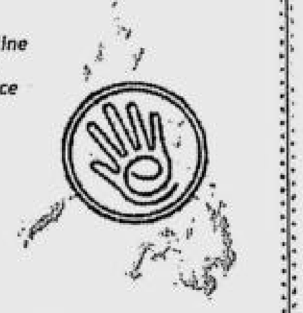

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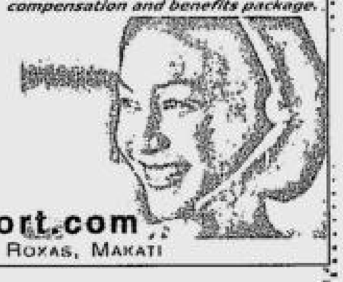

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### COLLECTION ASSISTANTS

Business course graduate, not more than 30 yrs old, minimum two years experience in both consumer & commercial collections, w/ knowledge in MS Office.

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- Results-oriented
- Can work well under pressure
- Trustworthy

### ASSISTANT SPA MANAGERS

- 21-30 years old, personable & presentable
- Preferably single
- Minimum of 1 year managerial experience
- Flexible in work hours
- Excellent leadership and interpersonal skills
- Results-oriented
- Can work well under pressure
- Trustworthy
- Preferably with medical background

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- Female, 20-30 years of age
- Preferably single
- Must have clear complexion
- With pleasing personality
- Preferably with experience & license
- With good communication skills
- Graduate of any medical related course

### MANICURISTS

- Female, between 18-35 years old
- Personable
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- Willing to work long hours
- Willing to be assigned to any branches available

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- 25-35 years old
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- Accounting Graduate
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- Computer literate
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Personable with clear complexion

### SKIN SPECIALIST

- Female, 20-30 years of age
- Preferably single
- Must have clear complexion
- With pleasing personality
- Preferably with experience
- With good communication skills
- Graduate of any medical related course

Applicants may come in their business attire from Mondays to Wednesdays every week, at 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., together with their comprehensive resumé, 2x2 picture and other credentials to the address below:

**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**
DAVID'S SALONS INC.
DSI Bldg. 1251 Cardona St., Poblacion, Makati City

---

**Aqua Add-on Systems Inc.** a manila-based company with U.S.A. and Korean technology in the **WATER INDUSTRY** are now inviting highly aggressive and dynamic individuals to fill-in the vacant positions in Sales.

The following positions are **URGENTLY NEEDED:**

### I. Two (2) Sales Manager

- Not more than 35 years old
- College graduate of business course
- With at least 2 years experience in the water industry
- Knows how to handle people
- Excellent command of English and Tagalog
- With attractive compensation

### II. Five (5) Full Time Sales Personnel

- Not more than 35 years old
- With experience in the field of sales and marketing in the water industry, an advantage
- Familiar in Northern Luzon Region, a definite plus factor
- Not presently employed
- Excellent command of English and Tagalog

### III. Ten (10) Part-time Field Sales Personnel

- Not more than 30 years old
- Willing to report to the office at least 3 times a week
- Must know at least 5 to 10 water stations owner in their own area

### IV. Two (2) Service Technician

- Mechanical engineering or any other engineering course
- With at least one experience in the field of installation and repair of water stations
- Can work with little supervision

"Fresh Graduates are welcome to apply"

Interested applicants are required to submit and handcarry their resumé with their transcript of record and employment certificate (if previously employed), NBI or Police clearance at

CITIRIZER BLDG.
Rm. 204, 1427 Soler St., Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel.: 7361605 Fax: 7341518
E-mail: gtomktg@pacific.net.ph

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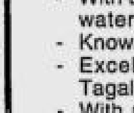

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
NATIONAL CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH
Nueve de Febrero St.
City of Mandaluyong

## VACANT POSITIONS

| POSITIONS | SALARY GRADE | OSEC-DOHB |
|---|---|---|
| Medical Specialist III | 23 | MSP3-152 |
| Chaplain | 16 | CLAIN-1 |
| Psychologist II | 15 | PSY2-13 |
| Nutritionist Dietitian II | 14 | ND2-47 |
| Pharmacist II | 12 | PH2-32 |
| Human Resource Mgt. Officer I | 11 | HRMO1-15 |
| Social Welfare Officer I | 11 | SOCWO1-16 |
| Assistant Statistician | 9 | ASTAT-4 |
| Human Resource Mgt. Assistant | 8 | HRMAS-27;<br>HRMAS-30 |
| Cash Clerk II | 6 | CHC2-7 |
| Musician | 5 | MUSIC- 25 |
| Nursing Attendant I | 4 | NATT1- 298<br>- 299<br>- 370<br>- 398<br>- 567<br>- 588<br>- 651<br>- 676 |
| Laboratory Aide II | 4 | LABA2- 114<br>- 115 |
| Utility Worker I | 1 | UTW1 - 509<br>- 553<br>- 604<br>- 620 |
| Occupational Therapist I | 10 | DTI - 3 |
| Pharmacist II | 12 | PH 2- 32 |

(Sgd.) BERNARDINO A. VICENTE,
MD, FPPA, MHA, CESO IV
Medical Center Chief II

---

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www.ambergrissolutions.com

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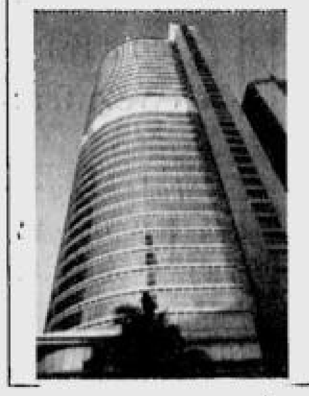
Bring or mail your updated resume with picture to:

Ambergris Solutions
31/F Discovery Centre, 25 ADB Avenue,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Monday to Friday, between 9am-9pm

**At ambergris solutions our employee-partners are committed to transforming the world of customer care. Come join the revolution!**



**Current positions available:**

- **Inbound Customer Interaction Associates**
  - must have excellent English communication skills
- **Team Captains**
  - 1 year previous supervisory experience (in any field) a must
- **Accounting Assistant**
  - 1 year accounts payable and FOREX experience a must
- **Sr. Telco Administrator**
  - 2 years voice over IP experience a must
- **Trainers**
  - experience in organizational development a must
- **Facilities Officer**
  - must have experience in building administration

## A GROWING BANK OWNED BY SOLID FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS IS CURRENTLY IN SEARCH OF TOPNOTCH, SELF-MOTIVATED, AND RESULTS-ORIENTED INDIVIDUALS WHO WILL BE PART OF ITS DYNAMIC TEAM.

### HEAD, TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT (Code: HTM)

- ○ Should have at least 5 years managerial experience in handling IT services of a bank;
- ○ Should be able to play a lead role in studying, planning and recommending integrated technology strategies, plans, programs, and projects for the bank;
- ○ Should be able to oversee the design, development, implementation, and operation of automated systems;
- ○ Should have good communication and interpersonal skills

### DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR, NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR, PROJECT LEADER, SYSTEMS ANALYST, ANALYST/PROGRAMMER, PROGRAMMER, TECHNICAL SUPPORT, ATM SPECIALIST (Code: ITP)

- ○ With at least 2 years related work experience in a bank;
- ○ With good communication and interpersonal skills;
- ○ Highly analytical and willing to work long hours;
- ○ Willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, Sta. Rosa, Lipa or Baguio

### HEAD, TREASURY SALES (Code: HTS)

- ○ Should have at least 5 years managerial experience in treasury operations of a bank;
- ○ Should be able to create structured treasury products to suit the customer's requirement;
- ○ Should be able to market and sell the bank's treasury products;
- ○ Should be able to play a lead role in the bank's investment portfolio management functions and risk taking activities including interest rate and liquidity exposure;
- ○ Should have good communication and interpersonal skills

### BRANCH MANAGER (Code: BM)

- ○ Should have at least 2 years related work experience with proven track record in loans and deposit generation;
- ○ Should be a team player with good communication skills and a high level of integrity;
- ○ Should be computer literate;
- ○ Willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, Sta. Rosa, Lipa or Baguio

### COLLECTION OFFICER (Code: CO)

- ○ Should have at least 2 years managerial experience in collection management of a bank;
- ○ Should be able to perform collection activities in order to obtain payment from delinquent and current accounts;
- ○ Should be computer literate and proficient in oral and written communication.
- ○ Willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, Sta. Rosa, Lipa or Baguio

### CREDIT INVESTIGATOR/APPRAISER (Code: CI/CA)

- ○ Preferably graduate of civil engineering with at least 1 year work experience as credit investigator/appraiser;
- ○ Should be computer literate and proficient in oral and written communication;
- ○ Should be willing to do field work;
- ○ Willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, Sta. Rosa, Lipa or Baguio

### RESEARCH SPECIALIST (Code: RS)

- ○ Graduate of business economics or accounting from a reputable college/university with at least one (1) year work experience in a similar function;
- ○ Should be computer literate and with excellent oral and written communication skills;
- ○ Will be assigned to undertake research activity to aid in systems evaluation and development, determine industry trends and viable investment opportunities;
- ○ Willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, Sta. Rosa, Lipa or Baguio

### ACCOUNTING STAFF (Code: AS)

- ○ Accounting graduate, preferably CPA;
- ○ Computer literate with good communication and interpersonal skills;
- ○ Highly analytical and willing to work long hours;
- ○ Willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, Sta. Rosa, Lipa or Baguio.

**SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION & BENEFITS PACKAGE WITH UNLIMITED CAREER OPPORTUNITIES. SEND RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS & 2X2 COLORED PHOTO TO:**

**Code: ______**
**HR MANAGER**
**1510 Prestige Tower, Emerald Avenue**
**Ortigas Center, Pasig City**

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## THE HERITAGE HOTEL MANILA

is managed by the Singapore-based Millennium and Copthorne International Limited, ranked as Asia's largest hotel group. Its London-based subsidiary Millennium and Copthorne Hotels plc, has, under its division, Millennium and Copthorne Hotels and Resorts, a stable of 91 hotels in 17 countries.

Dynamic and dedicated individuals are invited to apply for the position of:

### DIRECTOR OF SALES

Requirements

- Proven track record in sales and marketing preferably in the hotel industry
- Strong leadership skills
- Committed and willing to work long hours
- Not over 35 years of age

### FRONT OFFICE MANAGER

Requirements

- Extensive experience as Front Office Manager in a hotel or resort operation
- Strong leadership skills
- Committed to work long/extended hours
- Well rounded managerial experience in a similar industry
- Below 45 years old

Compensation package will be commensurate to the candidate's overall qualification and experience.
Interested party must submit application letter, resumé and 2"x2" photo not later than 03 February 2003.

The Human Resources Division
Roxas Boulevard corner EDSA, Pasay City, Metro Manila, 1300
Telephone: (632) 854 8888 Facsimile: (632) 854 8772
e-mail: hrd@heritagehotelmanila.com

---

## V.L. CHAN LAW OFFICE & ASSOCIATES

**WANTED**

**LAWYERS**
**PARALEGALS**
**LEGAL ASSISTANTS**
**ACCOUNTANT**
**LIAISON OFFICER**

We are looking for LAWYERS with positive mental attitude, at least one (1) year in practice, who want a well-rounded legal practice and expertise in law positioning strategy and the advantage of providing client centered services .

We are likewise in search of PARALEGALS and LEGAL ASSISTANTS who have a solid background in legal research and writing and who are willing to develop a craft in the legal setting.

We are also in need of an ACCOUNTANT with at least 2 years professional practice and has a well developed experience in the field of taxation. CPA License an advantage.

Interested parties may call MS. JOSIE ROSARIO at Tel Nos. 7246629 / 7219283 or send cover letter and resume at Fax No. 7217102 or email at vchan@compass.com.ph

You may visit our website at: www.lawpositioningstrategy.com to view the firm's profile.

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**AUSTRALIA, CANADA,**
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* For those who have relatives working in United Kingdom

Seminars are held every SATURDAY, 9am & 2pm. Bring with you an updated resume for evaluation. Avail of our Assessment and Consultation after the Seminar. Seminar Fee: P 350. Call for reservation.

For inquiries and reservations:

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International.
Institute.

5th Floor Pilar Bldng.,
# 148 Amorsolo St.,
Legaspi Village, Makati City
**Tel Nos.:** 813 3000
loc. 501, 502 or 503
**Fax No.:** 818 1055
**Email:** addpro@add.com.ph

*We are an immigration services company, not a placement agency.*

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If you are : a dynamic, results oriented individual who is seeking for career growth... **We Want You!!!**

### ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- Female, 25 to 35 years old
- Graduate of any Business Course
- With at least 1 year related experience
- With Driver's License

### PURCHASING OFFICER

- Female, 25-35 years old
- Graduate of any Business Course
- With at least 2-3 years experience in handling, planning, organizing, directing and controlling purchasing operations in a manufacturing sector
- Above average written and oral communication skills in English and Tagalog

### ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN

- Male, 22 to 35 years old
- Electrical Engineering/Electrical Technology/Vocational Course Graduate
- With at least 1-2 years experience in maintenance and troubleshooting of Plastic injection/blow molding machines, or other related machinery and equipment in a plastic manufacturing company

Interested applicants are requested to send/bring Resumé with Letter of Application and 2x2 ID picture to:

QC-2003-03
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F St. Anthony's Bldg.
891 Aurora Blvd. cor. Oxford St.
Cubao, Quezon City

---

## A progressive snack food manufacturing company is in immediate need of:

### *Baking Technology Specialist*

- Degree holder in Food Technology, Chemical Engineering or Chemistry
- With extensive experience in baking technology and in product development of cookies/biscuits, crackers, breads, cakes and pastries
- Willing to be assigned abroad

### *Food Technologist*

- Degree holder in Food Technology, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry or Microbiology
- With extensive experience in liquid condiments and formulation of dips, gravies, sauces, syrups and toppings
- Willing to be assigned abroad

### *MIS Manager*

- Must be proficient in computer networking technologies and server (Windows NT/2000 and Unix platform) and database administration
- Must be proficient in accounting principles and practices
- Preferably with some experience in the implementation of an ERP application suite in a manufacturing environment
- Preferably fluent in speaking in any Chinese dialect
- Willing to be assigned abroad

### *Graphic Artist*

- Degree in Fine Arts or Advertising
- Must be proficient in computer 2D graphics applications such as Adobe Photoshop/Freehand/Illustrator and Corel Draw

*Salaries are commensurate to qualifications.*
*Interested applicants may send their complete resumés and credentials/references (including 2" x 2" photo ID) to:*
***HRD Manager, 2225 Tolentino St., Pasay City 1300***
*Please indicate the position you are applying for.*

---

## IMMEDIATE HIRING

## SALES ENGINEER

- Male, 25-30 years old, college grad.
- With computer & driving skills
- Experience in air-conditioning field an advantage but not necessary
- We offer basic salary + comm. + allow

*Please bring your resumé with photo to:*
**GRAND AIRCONDITIONING INC.**
1650 A. Francisco St., Santa Ana, Manila
Tel. No. 561-2078 / 562-2703

---

## THE JUNNA GROUP OF COMPANIES

One of the country's leading industrial groups with global partners engaged in the business of distribution, industrial services, manufacturing, and research and development, is in need of the following personnel

### MARKETING SPECIALIST

- Male or Female, 22 to 30 years old
- Excellent interpersonal marketing and communication skills
- With pleasing personality

### SALES & SERVICE ENGINEER

- Female, 22 to 30 years old
- Graduate of BS - Chemical Engineering
- With experience in chemical products selling preferred but not required

### SALES ENGINEER

- Male or Female 24 to 30 years old
- Preferably with technical or engineering background
- Excellent interpersonal marketing and communication skills

### ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- Female, 25 to 30 years old
- Graduate of BS Customs Administration or any business course
- Atleast two (2) years in the Forwarding & Brokerage Industry

### HUMAN RESOURCES CLERK

- Female, 22 to 28 years old
- Graduate of B.S. Psychology
- Proficient in written and oral communication

### AUDIT OFFICER

- Female, 25 to 30 years old
- With three (3) years internal audit work experience
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)

### ACCOUNTING STAFF

- Female, 25 to 28 years old
- Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- With one (1) to three (3) years experience in accounting work

### PURCHASING OFFICER / CLERK

- Male or Female, 25 to 30 years old
- Graduate of B.S. Engineering or any technical course
- Proficient in purchasing the system and procedures

### TELEPHONE OPERATOR

- Female, 22 to 28 years old
- Excellent English & Filipino verbal communication & listening skills
- With pleasing personality

### COMPANY NURSE

- Male, 22 to 28 years old
- B.S. Nursing Graduate
- Preferably licensed but not a requirement

Attractive remuneration packages will be offered to successful candidates. Interested applicants may hand-carry, mail or e-mail their resume with recent photo and transcript of records to THE HR DEPARTMENT:

**JIC BLDG II 2419 Syquia cor. Calderon Sts., Sta. Ana, Manila 1009**
E-mail Address junna@skyinet.net
Telephone no 563 5508 loc 309

A DOCUMENT PROCESSING CENTER FOR THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION INVITES APPLICANTS FOR THE POSITION OF:

## DOCUMENT PROCESSORS/ OPERATORS

**(WITH SPECIAL SKILLS)**

- male or female, college graduate from reputable schools
- excellent English communications and typing skills
- highly computer literate with knowledge in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Photoshop and PageMaker
- willing to work 6 days a week, even during holidays, and be assigned to different shifts
- experience with recorders and transcribers preferred
- experience in desktop publishing, advertising and production of marketing materials, exposure with preparation of bills and accounts payable a plus.

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé, 2 x 2 picture, and other credentials to (please indicate current salary):

**THE OFFICE MANAGER**
12th Floor Net One Center
26th Street corner 3rd Avenue, Cresent Park West
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila

---

If you are a dynamic, highly motivated, aggressive and results-oriented individual, looking for a challenging and rewarding career in Sales...

Don't miss this opportunity! Be part of **East Alpha**, an accredited partner of **Standard Chartered Bank – 150 Years with You.**

We are in need of

## BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

To apply, you must be:

- At least 23 to 30 years old
- College graduate
- Excellent communication skills
- Fresh graduates are also welcome

An attractive compensation package composed of a fixed-allowance and unlimited incentives await you.

Submit your resumé personally at 6th Floor, FM Lopez Bldg., Carlos Palanca St., Legaspi Village, Makati City or call 840-13-06, look for Ms. Epi Tolentino for your appointment not later than January 29. Please bring the following documents:

- Resumé
- NBI Clearance
- 2 x 2 ID Picture

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**Globeground-PAGS Manila**

has excellent career prospects for the function of:

## Customer Development

To be assigned full-time to

**Lufthansa Cargo AG**
**The leading cargo airline worldwide.**

**As Customer Developer for Lufthansa Cargo, you will handle outside sales, develop and maintain relationships and businesses with clients in the cargo industry, offer logistics and product support and solutions. You will undergo training in Germany, Thailand, and other Lufthansa Cargo regional offices. A good compensation package awaits the successful applicant.**

**Please send us your resumé if you have the following qualifications:**

- 21 to 28 years old
- Strongly "other people centered" and innately interested in other people's welfare
- Good command of oral and written English, articulate and good speaking voice
- Strong analytical skills with above-average skills in the use of MS Office
- Willing to work on shifts, with strong initiative and drive, and highly responsible
- Experience in sales and marketing and airline/air freight background are an advantage (fresh graduates are also welcome)

**We prefer graduates of UP, Ateneo, DLSU, and Assumption.**

Please send your resumé with contact telephone number and ID picture to:

**P.O. Box 7764**
**Domestic Airport Post Office**
**Domestic Road**
**Pasay City, Metro Manila**

---

A new service company urgently requires highly qualified and motivated individuals for the following positions:

## SHIFT LEADER

The Center will be open for 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Applicants must be willing to be assigned to any shift.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- General Information Technology Experience for 5 years with current MCSE Certification for 2 years
- CCNA Certification for 2 years
- WAN Environment Management for 2 years
- Experience with management of a team for 2 years
- Project management experience, current
- Experience in software deployment and enterprise management current
- A solid understanding of Internet and SQL

## TECHNICIANS

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- MCP current
- MS Windows NT/Windows 2000 experience current
- CCNA current or literate
- MS Exchange basics current or literate
- General IT experience, two years current
- In training for MCSE Certification, current or literate

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé, 2 x 2 picture and other credentials to:

**THE OFFICE MANAGER**
12th Floor Net One Center
26th Street corner 3rd Avenue, Cresent Park West
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila

Please indicate position applied for and present salary (if employed)

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## WEB DEVELOPER

A company servicing international offices immediately urgently requires a Web Developer.

**Qualifications:**

- ✓ College graduate
- ✓ Very strong background on web-based software development (programming) skills
- ✓ Knowledge and experience with Flash software
- ✓ Knowledge and experience with LINX applications / software (HTML, NET, SQL server)
- ✓ Ability to work in a "virtual" team (with LINX management in Zurich)
- ✓ Creative and confident in solving problems
- ✓ Must be able to work well independently as well as in a team
- ✓ Excellent English communication skills both oral and written
- ✓ Deadline oriented
- ✓ Knowledge and experience with e-mail notification services helpful

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé, 2 x 2 picture and other credentials to (please indicate current salary)

**THE OFFICE MANAGER**
12th Floor Net One Center
26th Street corner 3rd Avenue, Cresent Park West
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila

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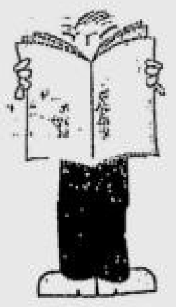

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A NEW SERVICE COMPANY IS LOOKING FOR HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND MOTIVATED INDIVIDUALS FOR THE POSITION OF:

## REGIONAL ACCOUNTS CLERK

- ✓ male or female
- ✓ graduate of BS Accountancy preferred
- ✓ computer literate and familiar with Microsoft Office applications
- ✓ with excellent oral and written English communication skills
- ✓ relevant experience in handling accounts in a Law Firm or legal department preferred

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé, 2 x 2 picture and other credentials to:

**THE OFFICE MANAGER**
12th Floor Net One Center
26th Street corner 3rd Avenue, Cresent Park West
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila

## A Call Center Company Invites Experienced Applicants For the Following Positions:

### SENIOR MANAGEMENT

**Telemarketing Director**
At least 2 years proven track record in managing outbound telemarketing operations. College graduate. MBA preferred.

**Quality Assurance Director**
At least 2 years proven track record in managing the Quality Assurance Operations of an Outbound Call Center. College graduate. MBA preferred.

**Finance Director**
CPA. College graduate. MBA preferred. At least 5 years experience in managing Financial Operations and international transactions.

### SUPPORT STAFF

**Telemarketing Agents**
Fluency in American English required. Experience preferred but not necessary. College graduate. Willing to work night shifts.

**Quality Assurance Agents**
Fluency in American English required. At least one year experience in Call Center Quality Assurance operations. College graduate. Willing to work night shifts.

**Finance Staff**
College graduate. At least one year experience in Finance operations.

**Human Resources Staff**
College graduate. At least one year experience in recruitment and training. Knowledge of Philippine Labor Laws required.

**Database Administrator**
At least two years experience as a Database Administrator. Certified SQL DBA for SQL 2000. Experience in Crystal Reports preferred.

**Network Administrator**
MSSE required. At least two years experience as Network Administrator. Knowledge in Windows 2000.

**IT Support Staff**
Knowledge in Desktop Applications. Visual Basic programmer.

**Telecom Support Staff**
At least one year experience. ECE required. Knowledge in cabling. Experience in supporting telephone/pabx facilities.

**Interested parties may submit their resumés with Photo to:**

IT Division, 4/f PJL Corporate Center,
Candelaria cor. Nicanor Garcia Sts., Makati City

Or e-mail:

it@pjlhuillier.com

---

## *ED-FRO-BON MANPOWER SERVICES*

POEA Lic. No. OS-109-LB-042298-NL

MANILA OFFICE:
2nd Flr., 8125 Eugene Bldg.
A.P. Burgos Street
Guadalupe, Nuevo
Makati City
Telefax No. 751-5122 / Tel. No. 751-3829/881-1464

CAGAYAN DE ORO BRANCH:
Waga Bldg.
Dolores-Pabayo Streets
Cagayan De Oro City
Tel. # (088) 857-4689

Our Foreign Principal ALDOULI MANPOWER SERVICES IN SHARJAH, U.A.E., with POEA Accreditation Cert. 66502-1

### URGENTLY NEEDED:

**COMPUTER OPERATOR: (MALE OR FEMALE)**
- A graduate of any 4-year course, preferably Commerce (Accounting/Finance)
- At least 1 to 2 years of relevant experience
- Unix and C, preferably on Sybase database system
- At least 21 to 24 years of age

**SUPERVISOR/MASTER CUTTER**
- Must have 5 years of relevant experience
- At least 25 to 35 years of age

**TAILOR: (MALE)**
- Must have 3 years of relevant experience
- At least 21 to 38 years of age

**SEWER (FEMALE)**
- Must have 3 years of relevant experience
- At least 21 to 38 years of age

**SALES LADY**
- Graduate of any 4-year course or college level
- At least 5'4" in height
- Articulate and with pleasing personality
- Preferably 21 to 28 years old

All interested applicants may apply with complete supporting documents

Final Interview by the Employer will be on January 29, 2003

FOR MANPOWER POOLING ONLY
NO FEES TO BE COLLECTED
"MAG-INGAT SA ILLEGAL RECRUITER"

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**Be part of our expansion program!**

## PERK Body Care Center

### For immediate hiring

***Spa Managers***
- male or female
- w/ prior experience in a related field.

***Sales Consultants***
- female, not more than 30 yrs. old
- with solid marketing and sales background
- at least 1-3 years work experience in related field

***Receptionists/Telemarketers***
- Female, not more than 30 yrs. old
- College graduate with pleasing personality

***Therapists***
- Female, 21-29yrs. old
- Physical Therapy or Nursing graduate.

***Masseuses***
- 21-29yrs. old
- at least one year experience

Please prepare resume with recent photo and call **Ms. Abby at 8103569** for your interview appointment

Opportunity knocks but once.
Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.
JOB MARKET

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## CERAMIC PLAZA INC. | Federal HARDWARE

JOIN OUR YEAR 2003 EXPANSION PROGRAM! We are opening new branches this year. We need dynamic, aggressive individuals who will fill in the following vacancies:

### *Quality Assurance Head
- Preferably male; not more than 35 years old
- Ceramic or Chemical Engineering graduate
- Minimum of 5 years work experience in a ceramic tile manufacturing company, at least 2 years of which in supervisory capacity
- Certified ISO 9000 Auditor
- Willing to relocate in Cavite

### Customer Care Officer
- Male/Female; not more than 28 years old
- Chemical/Civil/Mechanical Engineering graduate
- 5'6" for male/5'4" female
- Valid driver's license (an advantage)
- Good command of English and with excellent communication and negotiating skills
- Can relate to all levels

### Store Managers
- Male/Female; not more than 33 years old
- Graduate of any 4 year course from any reputable university
- Preferably with experience in managerial/supervisory position, gained from a Do-It-Yourself hardware and retail stores
- Capable of handling more than 50 personnel
- Highly dependable and can work under pressure
- Result-oriented; highly motivated; a team player
- Willing to work even during extended hours
- Good in both oral and written communication
- With pleasing personality
- Willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, Pampanga, Laguna, Batangas and Cavite Provinces

### Store Supervisors
- Male/Female; not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of any 4 year business course from a reputable university
- With at least 1 year experience in supervisory position preferably gained from a Do-It-Yourself hardware and other retail stores
- Capable of handling at least 20 personnel
- Highly dependable; can work under pressure
- Assertive; self-starter; decisive
- Willing to work even during extended hours
- With pleasing personality
- Good in both oral and written communication

### Management Trainees
- Male/Female, Single, not more than 28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-5 year business course from prestigious universities
- Highly competent, creative and can work with minimum supervision
- Hardworking, honest, with strong leadership ability
- Experience in handling retail/hardware store is an advantage
- Good communication skills and interpersonal relations is a must

Willing to be assigned in any of these areas: Manila, Pasay, Makati, QC., Parañque, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa, Pasig, Marikina, Rizal, Cavite, Bulacan, Pampanga, Tarlac, Laguna

All applicants must bring their comprehensive resume with 2x2 picture and a copy of their transcript of records

*Applicants are requested to come in proper business attire from Monday-Friday at 9AM to 3PM at*
**2250 Don Chino Roces Avenue (Pasong Tamo), Makati City**

**Applicants for Quality Assurance Head are requested to come in proper business attire from Monday-Friday at 9AM to 3PM at*
**EUROTILES INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION**
**Km. 39 Aguinaldo Hi-way, Barangay Biga II, Silang, Cavite**

**NEWLY GRADUATES ARE WELCOME TO APPLY**

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## NURSING RESOURCES INTERNATIONAL, INC.

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WITH 1-2 YEARS HOSPITAL EXPERIENCE
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1) Resumé (CV)
2) RN License
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4) 2 x 2 Photo

in person during interviews with:

M.D. Splain, Chairman
Nursing Resources International, Inc.
On
January 22, 23, 27, 28, 29 and 30
At
#22 Aguinaldo Building
Doña Teresita Drive, Doña Donata Village
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City
(near Alabang Town Centre)
(the street between Pacific Village & Asia Trust Bank)

or via e-mail to:

dsplain@find-a-nurse.com

FOR INTERVIEW APPOINTMENT
CALL OR TEXT: 09202323093

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This is a pre-hiring survey

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Elev8 Productions

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## Account Executive

- * Male or Female
- * College graduate from a reputable school
- * Has to have experience in sales, preferably events.

Apply in person: Bring your resume
with 2x2 ID Picture at 6th Floor, Kings
Court Bldg. 2, Don Chino Roces Ave.
Cor. Dela Rosa St., Makati City.

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## A REPUTABLE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED PERSONNEL

***BRANCH HEADS***

Successful candidates will oversee the planning and implementation of marketing programs and activities that will enable specific branches in the Makati and Manila areas to meet deposit and loan targets.

*Qualification/s:*
- Must have at least 2 years experience as Branch Operations Officer or Marketing Officer
- Proven track record in deposit and loan generation
- Preferably Chinese speaking (for Manila Area)

***BRANCH OPERATIONS OFFICER for Cavite Branch***

The successful candidate for the position should be able to provide strategies and directions for the Cash and Accounting sections of the branch.

*Qualification/s:*
- Must have at least 2 years experience in branch operations, preferably in a supervisory capacity

***BRANCH OPERATIONS PLANNING AND MONITORING HEAD***

Directly reporting to the Branch Banking Division Head, the successful candidate for the position will be in-charge of coordinating with branch units and monitoring their performance levels to enable them to achievement of goals. The BOPM Head will likewise supervise the preparation of the division's budget and the formulation of cash operations policies and procedures.

*Qualification/s:*
- Background in Audit and Branch Operations preferred
- Analytical, methodical and systematic
- Must possess strong interpersonal skills

***TRADER***

The successful candidate will be responsible for funds generation and investments application which will help the bank attain maximum balance sheet spreads.

*Qualification/s:*
- Minimum of two years experience in Marketing
- Good analytical ability

**All candidates must be graduates of Accountancy or any related business course, must possess strong leadership qualities and be proficient in oral and written communication.**

**Interested applicants may send their resumes to 153 Legazpi Street, Legazpi Village, Makati City on or before January 31, 2003. Please indicate position you are applying for.**

---

**JONAS FOOD CORPORATION** is a pioneering and innovative food service and restaurant company, which is at the beginning of its growth stage. We need the following people who can guide the firm through the challenges of growth:

### 1 ACCOUNTANT
- at least 28 years old, college graduate with two years experience in doing financial and management accounting reports
- detail-oriented, analytical, willing to do over-time
- will be directly responsible for the **design, installation and administration of a system for the generation, processing, storage and retrieval of financial data and records needed for financial statements, tax returns, government reports, and for management decision-making**
- will do audit of sales of three store locations

### 1 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
- at least 24 years old, college graduate, at least one year experience in handling personnel-related paper work
- willing to do clerical work and dialogue with frontline staff
- sensitive, strict in enforcing company policies, and hard-working

### 1 FOOD TECHNOLOGIST
- at least 23 years old, college graduate, no experience needed
- knowledgeable in conceptualizing and implementing food production processes
- analytical, process-oriented, and hands-on

### 1 REFRIGERATION TECHNICIAN
- graduate of vocational training in refrigeration and cooling systems
- at least 6 months experience in maintaining, repairing and troubleshooting kitchen freezers, chillers, and refrigerators
- flexible in doing minor electrical and mechanical repairs

*Please personally send* **your letter of application** *with your* **resumé, transcript of records** *and* **2 pcs. recent 2" x 2" photograph** *to the following address between 2 p.m. - 6 p.m., Monday to Wednesday.*

Jonas Food Corporation, 561 Mayon cor. Malindang Streets,
Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City 1114

*Be ready for immediate interviews.*

---

## IMMEDIATE HIRING

### TRAINING SUPERVISOR
- Female, between 28 to 35 years old
- Graduate of Behavioral Science or Education
- At least 2-3 years experience as Training Officer
- Skilled in the design of training modules
- Responsible, trustworthy, can work well under pressure, highly analytical and attentive to details
- Strong supervisory & interpersonal skills
- Computer literate

### TELEPHONE OPERATOR/ CANVASSER
- College graduate from a reputable school
- Single
- Female, not more than 30 years old
- Good communication skills
- At least 2-3 years of experience in switchboard operations
- With pleasing personality and pleasant voice

Qualified applicants may send their application letter, comprehensive resumé indicating telephone/cell phone nos., recently taken 2x2 ID pictures, photocopy of transcript of records and other credentials to:

**Box KA-014-02 CS**
**c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer**
**Classified Ads Division**
**G/F Trinity Bldg., #636 T.M. Kalaw St.**
**Ermita, Manila**
E-mail: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
Subject: CS

# Topnotch auditing firm scouts for talent in schools

By Rochelle Leonor

## HR Focus

FOR a company to excel in its field, one must employ brilliant people. And what is a better way of getting the cream of the crop than by keeping track of them while they're still in school?

This is what Charito Nañagas does. As leader of the human resources department of Joaquin Cunanan & Co., she makes sure that the company hires the best, and only the best. "This is why we already get to know accounting students while they're still studying," she explains.

### Working with youth

Nañagas elaborates that Joaquin Cunanan & Co. works with the Junior Philippine Institute of Accounatnts (JPIA), an organization of accounting students from different colleges and universities. By helping and sponsoring JPIA's activities, the company gets to know the students, enabling it to monitor their progress in schools. "When they graduate, we make offers. And while they are reviewing for the board exams, we let them go through interviews," she says.

Nañagas says that she keeps track of students who excel academically, and are very involved in extra-curricular activities. She says potential Cunanan staff should also be able to communicate well. "We basically look for well-rounded people," she says. Nañagas adds that the firm also keeps an eye on students who are still in their sophomore and junior years. "It's a very intensive and long-term search."

> *"As long as an employee is learning something, he will stay with the firm. When he is no longer learning, he will leave"*

### Varied jobs

Aside from her responsibilities in the recruitment and selection of the firm, Nañagas is in charge of the rewards, benefits and development of the staff. In one of the development programs called global deployment, she explains that she looks for assignments for the staff in other Pricewaterhouse-Coopers offices abroad. She also takes care of the administrative and office services of the firm. "I handle the messengers, reception and maintenance of the premises," she says. "If there's a new manager that joined the firm, I have to give him a workspace."

As if these weren't enough, she is also a program facilitator for two of the programs that Cunanan runs which help in the development of its staff. These are the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People and the Interaction Management.

### Learning habits

Nañagas explains that the main challenge is to attract and retain good people. She recognizes the fact that employees nowadays are different from those many years ago. "As long as an employee is learning something, he will stay with the firm," she says. However, when he is no longer learning, Nañagas says the employee will seek greener pastures. "That's the reality."

Recognizing the fact, the organization placed the responsibility of learning to the staff themselves. They are allowed to plan what they want to learn, how fast they want to go, and what kind of help they need. Nañagas adds that the firm encourages the staff to tell their counselors what kinds of clients they want to handle so it can be considered in determining client assignments. She says that this gives the staff a chance to take charge of their own learning. "In reality, they can leave anytime because their employability is good," she says. "But since we spend a considerable amount of money, time and effort training them, we hope they stay."

### Different setting

But she is quick to add that although the job is challenging, she also enjoys it immensely. Although she gets to travel to attend conferences abroad, Nañagas says the real enjoyment comes from working with knowledge workers, who are quick to understand. Working with a manufacturing company in the past, she explains that Cunanan has a very different setting. "If you explain something once, they get it. You don't have to go over it again and again," she beams.

Joaquin Cunanan & Co. is a member firm of PricewaterhouseCoopers. Holding office in 142 countries and employing more than 125,000 employees, PricewaterhouseCoopers is the largest professional services firm in the world. The organization does assurance work, audits and tax consulting. Its clients range from local to multinational companies.

NAÑAGAS

PHOTO BY BETOY JOHNSON

### Good background

Nañagas has been working for Cunanan since 1989. Prior to her stint in Cunanan, she worked in a bank for many years. When her husband was sent to the US for an assignment, she did volunteer work for the New York office of the Philippine Commission on Good Government during the Edsa revolution. She kept track of paintings, silver and other artworks left by the previous administration. These, in turn, were auctioned off.

A graduate of Psychology from the Assumption College, Nañagas has always been involved with HR work. She also pursued higher education in Psychology from the Ateneo de Manila University. Immediately after finishing her course, she, together with some friends, set up a testing center, offering psychometric services. But the demands of running a business got too much of her, realizing that it's better for her to be employed. She, however, says that this developed her character and helped her be a better HR practitioner.

A loving wife and a doting mother of two children, Nañagas says, at this point of her life, she aims to find and follow the will of God for her. She says she would like to continue developing new talents, and learn new things. She also plans to devote more of her time to her needlepoint hobby and doing more volunteer work. After all, Nañagas has already earned her mark with Joaquin Cunanan & Co.

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*A social enterprise organization engaged in Fair Traded Handicrafts is urgently in need of energetic and innovative people for the following posts:*

**A. PRODUCT DESIGNER (HANDICRAFTS)**

*An applicant must be either male or female ranging from 20-28 years old and must have the following qualifications: (1) Must be a graduate of Bachelor of Fine Arts in Industrial Design. (2) Must have at least 1-2 years experience handicrafts designing (3) Able to lead, motivate, and supervise people (4) ability to work under pressure in a fast – paced working environment with keen eye for the details and results-driven. (5) Load of creativity, patience, and honest (6) Excellence in oral and written communication (7) Proficiency in software application (MS-Office, Adobe, Photoshop, Corel Draw, Illustrator).*

**B. HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PERSONNEL**

*Preferably male with the age bracket of 23-30 years old, a graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management. Have a minimum of 1-2 years of experience in Human Resource Management with the proficiency in oral and written communication, can relate in all levels of people, proactive and mature. He can work under pressure and must be computer literate.*

**C. INFORMATION OFFICER**

*This position is open to both male and female with at least 23-35 years old and a graduate of any related Business Courses with experience on the operations of Fair Trade and Non-Government Organization. S/He must be excellent in oral and written communication with good presentation skills and must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality. S/He must have an impeccable integrity and good moral character with the proficiency in software application (MS-Office, Adobe, Photoshop, Corel Draw, and Illustrator).*

*Be one with us by sending your written application letter with your curriculum vitae to the Executive Director at 2594 Lamayan St., Sta. Ana, Manila or through Fax No. 563-4632; e-mail: safrudi@skyinet.net. Only pre-qualified applicants will be notified.*

---

A newly-established retail store that provides quality home entertainment urgently needs the following:

**STORE MANAGER**

- College graduate
- Between 26 to 30 years of age
- With at least 2 years experience in any retail outlet
- Responsible, trustworthy, can work with minimum supervision
- With pleasing personality
- Above average communication skills
- Computer literate
- Possesses managerial skills
- Willing to work on shifting schedules

**STORE SUPERVISOR**

- College graduate
- Between 23 to 27 years of age
- With at least 1 year experience in any retail outlet
- Responsible, trustworthy, can work with minimum supervision
- With pleasing personality
- Above average communication skills
- Computer literate
- Willing to work on shifting schedules

**CUSTOMER ASSISTANT**

- 18-23 years old
- At least 2nd year College
- Customer-friendly and a movie fanatic with dynamic personality
- Willing to work on shifting schedules

Applicants preferably residing in Las Piñas, Parañaque, Pasay City and Manila.

Qualified applicants may send their application letter, comprehensive resumé with picture indicating telephone/cellphone numbers, photocopy of transcript of records and other credentials to:

**2239 Singalong St., Malate, Manila**

or you may e-mail your resumé at
**send2us@tri-isys.com**

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**Urgent Job Openings for a Marketing Communications Company**

**Position I: Writers (Business Features or Lifestyle, Full time)**

- Experience in BUSINESS FEATURES or LIFESTYLE beat (beauty, food, fashion, health)
- Must be computer and internet proficient (preferably with computer and internet access at home)
- Proficiency in English and Filipino written and oral communication/ Excellent spoken/telephone skills a must
- Must be available to commence employment by January 28, 2003
- 3-5 years continuous writing experience

**Position II : Communications Associate**

- Ideally, Graduates of Communication or Marketing. Fresh graduates with excellent scholastic records are welcome to apply
- Highly computer and internet proficient in WORD, EXCEL, PPT, ACCESS (preferably with computer and internet access at home)
- Good writing and verbal communication skills

Work will be full time and Makati-based. Please send sample works with three verifiable work references to **info@geisermaclang.com** or fax to 4342561 or mail to MCPO 4678 Makati City 1286. Application cut off date: **February 2, 2003.**

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sportshouse

**Store Supervisor**

- Male / Female, College graduate
- Must possess strong leadership skills
- At least 1 year experience in retail / store operations
- Good communication skills

**Accounting Staff**

- Female, Accounting graduate
- Must be computer literate
- At least 1 year experience in Accounting works

**IT STAFF**

- Female, must be a computer course graduate
- With background in Relational Database Management System (RDBMS)
- With knowledge in PC troubleshooting

You may send your resumé at:
19 Pecton Bldg., Gilmore Avenue
New Manila, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 721-2480 / 721-5553
Fax No. 722-2869
E-mail: sports@sportshouse.com.ph

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## Human Resource Services Supervisor

*Qualifications:*

- Graduate of Accounting, Finance or any business related course
- At least one (1) year experience in payroll and benefits (knowledge in Peopleware System is an advantage)
- Highly computer literate with extensive knowledge in Word, Excel and Outlook
- Fluent in both oral and written communication
- People-oriented, trustworthy and able to work under pressure

## SPA Manager for Clarins

*Qualifications:*

- Graduate of any 4-year business related course
- Must have a background in beauty therapy, preferably in a managerial capacity and possibly with international exposure
- Must have exposure in sales, marketing and events and promotions management
- Must possess excellent customer service orientation
- Must have good communication and team management skills

Interested applicants may send their resumé to

**HUMAN RESOURCES & ORGANIZATION**
**DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**
**G/F, El Mercasol Bldg.,**
**EDSA, Mandaluyong City**

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**FOR THE RGMC GROUP'S EXPANSION PROGRAM, WE ARE IMMEDIATELY HIRING MOTIVATED PROFESSIONALS FOR THE POSITION OF:**

**FOOD DIVISION**

1) **Brand and Marketing Assistant for food products**
   a. With at least 2 years marketing background and experience for consumer food products. Graduate of a 4 year Business or Management course.
   b. Good with client relations and proficient in oral and written communication.
   c. 25-32 years old
2) **Sales Representative for Food products**
   a. With at least 2 years field experience and with at least 2nd year college level.
   b. With pleasing personality and good communication skills
   c. Honest, hardworking, energetic and with initiative, ability and interest in selling products. Willing to work past regular hours
   d. 25-32 years old at least 5'2" for females and 5'4" for males
3) **Delivery van driver – can drive up to 6 wheeler trucks**
   a. Hardworking, honest and willing to work overtime
   b. Not more than 35 years old

**FASHION DIVISION**

4) **Operations Assistant for Retail store operations**
   a. Good with customer relations and possesses good oral and written communication skills. Logical and is an effective leader.
   b. With at least 2 years experience as assistant manager or supervisor
   c. Female, 24-30 years old, graduate of a 4year Business or Management course
5) **HR Manager**
   a. With at least 2 years experience as an HR assistant or supervisor.
   b. Graduate of a 4year Management or Psychology related course
   c. Hire, Train and Monitoring of promo personnel as well as administrative personnel. Can design, develop and conduct training programs.
   d. Female, 25-32 years old
6) **Sales Coordinator**
   a. Graduate of a 4year course. Preferably management related course
   b. Female, Not more than 30 years old
7) **Store Manager/Management Trainee**
   a. Female, 26-30 years old at least 5'4". Pleasing personality and good with client relations and oral communication skills both in English and Tagalog and is an effective leader.
   b. Willing to be assigned anywhere in Metro Manila
   c. Honest, hardworking and energetic. Must have ability and initiative to manage a retail store.
   d. With experience at a sales or management position and graduate of a 4year Business or Management course.
8) **Sales Personnel**
   a. Female, 21-28 years old, at least 5'4". At least 2nd year college.
   b. Pleasing personality and good with client relations and oral communication skills both in English and Tagalog
   c. Willing to be assigned anywhere in Metro Manila
   d. Honest, hardworking, energetic and with initiative, ability and interest in selling products.
9) **Visual Merchandiser and 10) Fashion Designer**
   a. Female, 24-30 years old
   b. Preferably a graduate of Fine Arts or fashion related course.
   c. With creative skills in drawing, sketching and product arranging.

**REQUIREMENTS: RECENT 2X2 ID PICTURE AND RESUMÉ**
**PLS CONTACT MS. MILDRED**
**RGMC GROUP**
**TEL NO. 7425795, 7325603**
**E-MAIL: RGMC@PACIFIC.NET.PH**

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# URGENTLY NEEDED

Isis International — Manila, an international women's information and communication service organisation is currently in search of FEMALE applicants who will join its dynamic and motivated team belonging to the Information, Documentation and Resources Programme (IDRP) for the following position:

## DATABASE SPECIALIST

**[for a limited 1-year contract]**

**Primary Functions:**

• development, maintenance and expansion of Isis initiated databases including key networks • participation in Information Technology Team work.

**Essential Skills:**

• Advanced computer literacy; technical know-how in use of Internet, Microsoft Access; able to use complex computer operations (relations database & operating systems, advanced features software packages, work processing, spreadsheet, graphics) • Well versed in designing forms & questionnaires necessary to conduct surveys and writing business letters • Experienced in handling and managing information gathering, sharing, organising and profiling • Good networking experience • Must be familiar with research techniques • Ability to follow up and retain initial contacts made with individuals, groups and institutions • Excellent writing and verbal communication skills in English

**The successful candidate will show that she:**

• Has initiative and a high degree of commitment • Is well organised, flexible, a "doer" and team oriented • Has at least 3-4 years working experience.

Send resumés with two reference letters not later than Monday, February 17, 2003 to:

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
#3 Marunong Street, Brgy. Central
Quezon City 1100 Philippines
Fax (632) 924-1065 Reference: Database Officer

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOBMarket ONLINE
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www.jobmarketonline.com

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GLEE ELECTRONICS INC.

*is looking for young, dynamic and dedicated*

## Computer Salesmen

- Male or female
- with at least a college degree
- at least 1 year experience in computer sales
- work well under pressure
- willing to travel
- has good oral and written communication skills

*Qualified candidates may send their resumé*
*by e-mail to mickey102200@yahoo.co.uk*
*or send to #203 E. Fernandez St., San Juan,*
*Metro Manila, Philippines*
*For more info, call 727-7017-19/726-2211 & 14*
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- Male / Female, not more than 30 years old
- College graduate of a course related to Architecture and Interior Design
- Computer literate and equipped with drafting skills
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- Must have a prior experience in marketing and sales

*Qualified applicants are requested to personally submit their comprehensive resumé, transcript of records and recent 2 x 2 photo to:*

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## ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Male or Female, 20-30 years old. Graduate of marketing or accounting from a respectable university. Excellent communication and interaction skills are essential. Must be aggressive and can work with minimal supervision. Computer literate especially in MS Word, MS Excel and other Microsoft applications.

## SOFTWARE SUPPORT STAFF

Male or Female, 20-30 years old. Graduate of Computer Science or any related course from a respectable university. Must have good knowledge of any database software. A good background in accounting is a plus.

## TECHNICAL WRITER

Male or Female, 20-30 years old. Graduate of Computer Science or any related course from a respectable university. Must have a good command of the English language. Knowledge of HTML Help Workshop or Macromedia Dreamweaver is a plus.

*If you believe that you have what it takes to become a part of a fast growing IT company, send us a letter of application, resumé and copy of your transcript of records to:*

COMPUTER CRAFT CORPORATION
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- Preferably w/ experience
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## INSTRUCTORS IN THE FOLLOWING FIELDS

- Computer Science
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- Electronics/Electrical Engineering
- Filipino
- Management

✓ With at least 1 year teaching experience
✓ With at least 12 Post Graduate units

Prospective applicants are required to submit their Resumé along with a "2 x 2" colored picture to:

**Ms. Cherry Remando – HR Head**
**Interface Computer College**
**2nd Floor Cartimar Bldg.**
**Claro M. Recto Avenue**
**Quiapo, Manila**

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# IMMEDIATE HIRING

**BOOKKEEPER**

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- Knowledge in General Acctg. & Financial Statements preparation as well as payables
- Computer literate and familiar with Acctg. Software
- Can work with minimum supervision

**ALL AROUND MECHANIC FOR LIGHT AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT**
**10 years experience**

**COMPANY DRIVER**
**3-5 years experience**
**Familiar in Metro Manila Area**

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42-E Banahaw St., Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 7247948/7233167/4126781
From Mondays to Saturdays 8-5 PM

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**Tetra Tech EM Inc.**
*An environmental consulting company headquartered in Chicago, invites qualified candidates to apply for the position of:*

# ACCOUNTANT

*For its Philippine branch office*

The Accountant will be part of a 5-man accounting team providing accounting services to its projects in the Philippines. The Accountant will be based in Manila and will assist in treasury management, payroll and accounting report preparation to include the following:

- Monitoring bank accounts including fund transfers, withdrawals and exchange rates
- Review and process accounts payable
- Maintain accounting and payroll databases
- Provide inputs in accounting report preparation

The qualified candidate will have:

- 4/5-year degree in Accountancy/Finance
- CPA; non-CPA need not apply
- 3-year minimum work experience
- PC skills, including Microsoft Office, Knowledge of Platinum accounting system will be an advantage

Tetra Tech offers a competitive salary and fringe benefits package.

Please send 3-page resumé by fax with cover letter not later than February 7, 2003 to:

**Ms. Rhodora R. Despi**
**Tetra Tech EM Inc.**
**17th Floor, OMM-CITRA Building**
**San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City**
**Fax No.: 634-1622**

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NOW HIRING FOR: **Manila, Tarlac and San Fernando Pampanga**

1 **STORE MANAGER [For Manila]**
Female with pleasing personality not more than 40 years old, graduate of Management course or preferably with HRD background with 2-3 years managerial experience. With strong leadership abilities and result oriented.

2 **STORE SUPERVISOR [For Tarlac & San Fernando]**
Female preferably single with pleasing personality, 28-35 years old, with strong leadership. With at least 2 years experience in sales & supervisory work.

3 **HR ASSISTANT [For Metro Manila]**
Female, with pleasing personality not more than 30 years old, BS Psychology graduate with at least 2 years exposure in HR function (Recruitments, Records and Benefits)

4 **SALES CONSULTANT [For Metro Manila, San Fernando & Tarlac]**
Preferably single, female with pleasing personality between 25-35 years old. Marketing graduate with good command in English, with at least 2 years experience in selling.

5 **MASSAGE THERAPIST [For Metro Manila & Tarlac]**
Preferably female with pleasing personality, single, 20-30 years old with pleasing personality. Graduate of any 2-4 years course preferably medical related. Willing to under go training.

6 **6 MALE MASSEURS [For Metro Manila]**
20-30 years old with pleasing personality. Graduate of any 2-4 years course preferably medical related, with knowledge in massage (shiatsu, reflex & swedish)

7 **We also accept P.T., nurses, nurse assistant, medtech and related courses, high school graduate.**

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS MAY APPLY AT
**#67 WEST AVE., Q.C. (2F Steak Town Restaurant),**
WITH THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:
RESUMÉ WITH 2x2 PICTURE AND TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS.

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**A highly dynamic corporation is in immediate need of the following:**

## HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICERS

- preferably a graduate of Psychology or Management with units in Master's Degree from a reputable school with good scholastic records
- experience in labor relations for at least 1 year
- with knowledge about labor laws
- innovative, flexible, hardworking & with good moral values
- can work under pressure
- possess a sense of leadership & responsibility
- willing to travel

## ACCOUNTING STAFF/PAYROLL ASSISTANTS

- Accounting graduate with good scholastic records
- experience is an advantage
- flexible, hardworking & with good moral values
- can work under pressure with less supervision

Qualified applicants may apply in person with their comprehensive resumé & credentials to Rm. 701, 7th floor Culmat Bldg., E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., New Manila, Quezon City at Tel. Nos. 7250074; 7246356; 7210013; 7051341 & look for Ms. Susan Lao.

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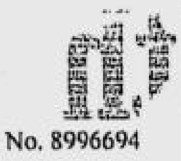

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# How to respond to a colleague who has AIDS

**DEAR WW: A man who I work closely with and like a lot just confided to me that he has AIDS. I'm shocked and I don't know how to respond.**

**Scared**

**WORKING WOUNDED**

*Bob Rosner*

You can catch a lot of things at work—a cold, things falling through the cracks, or hell. But AIDS is one of the few things you can't catch—unless you and your co-worker work the way Demi Moore and Michael Douglas did in "Disclosure." So start by letting go of the fear that you might somehow get it from him.

The next step is to start thinking about how you can support your co-worker. Try asking yourself a few questions.

Suppose he'd told you he had cancer: how would you respond? AIDS is a disease, not a judgment. Spend less time thinking about how he got infected and more time being compassionate.

For just a moment, can you see through the eyes of your colleague? Understandably you feel afraid. But if you really want to know fear, imagine that you have an immune deficiency disease, that you're continuing to work, in part, to keep your health benefits, and that the person at the next desk comes to work with a cold. That person's inconvenience and runny nose is, to you, a possible medical emergency.

Can you listen to your co-worker? That may be what he needs above all: to feel that you can respond to him just as you did before: non-judgmentally—as a friend, as a colleague, as a person.

Are you operating with an outdated image of AIDS? These days, new drug therapies are extending people's lives and keeping their symptoms sufficiently minimized that many can remain in the workplace indefinitely.

So continue to think of this person as a productive colleague, not as person with a terminal disease.

As you look toward the future of working with this man there are three additional things you can do—n fact, have to do—because people with AIDS are legally protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Maintain his confidence. If he asked you to keep his diagnosis secret, you must do so. His confidentiality is protected by the ADA.

Offer him a helping hand. Offering help to coworkers with AIDS is legally mandated by the ADA. Are there things you can do to help your colleague remain productive?

Stand up for him. Many people aren't open-minded or educated about AIDS. Fearing discrimination (including loss of employment and benefits), your colleague is probably not in a position to lobby or educate others. Those of us who can must rally in their stead. Contact your local AIDS organization or public health department for suggestions.

Researchers have made tremendous strides against AIDS in the past few years, and the future promises more. Now let's make the same kind of inroads against its companion disease: bias against the people who have it.

*(Mr. Rosner is the author of "The Boss's Survival Guide," McGraw Hill 2001, and "Working Wounded," Warner 2000, a speaker and founder of the award-winning Working Wounded.com & RetentionEvangelist.com. He is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. Email him at* bob@workingwounded.com.*)*

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

# Ten introspective ways...

(From page G10)

ing them both their strengths and weaknesses. Be careful in choosing your role model. Jesus Christ seems like a good choice, for in 2 Corinthians 3:18, "...we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

### Personal growth

7. Grow. Successful people, pioneering people, and people who make significant contributions in this world are those who are likely to be discontented with the way things are being done. Show me a thoroughly contented person and I'll show you a mediocre person. The secret lies in being discontented with the right things. Luke 2:52 reminds us that "...Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." If we strive to grow, let it be in these same parameters as Jesus grew—physically, mentally, socially and spiritually. Focusing on only one growth area and disregarding the others will not make us a balanced person.

8. Optimize your strengths, compensate for your weaknesses. In life and career, success comes to those who strike best with their strengths and are able to shield their weaknesses. Knowing that there is no perfect person, we should all be aware that we have a good mix of strengths and weaknesses. Know what they are—do a lot of introspection and ask others to help you know both. Wisdom consists in knowing your strengths and weaknesses, what you can do to improve your strengths, what weaknesses you cannot change and how to compensate for those weaknesses so that they don't stand in the way of your success.

### Your place in the world

9. Find your niche, and be the best in it. Because of what we are and what we have, we can be good at certain things and maybe we can never really excel in others. Most successful people are able to find a need, and they are the first to fill that need. Find your little corner in the world, where the sun shines the brightest for you, and strive to be the best in what you do in that corner. What's good for others might not be good for you. Start looking at your attitude, then your aptitude. Once you know yourself better, try to know your environment, including your competition. Don't forget what Zig Ziglar said, "It is your attitude, not your aptitude that determines your altitude."

10. Be proud, not conceited. Feel good about yourself, and chances are that you will succeed in doing your best. When you succeed in doing your best, you'll be surprised to see how good you will feel about yourself. Take pride in whatever you do and leave a trademark in every accomplishment you make. No matter how much you talk about what you know or what you have done, nothing matters to other people unless you touch their lives. When you touch others' lives, you don't have to advertise your achievements, for in their heart they will know what you did for them. John C. Maxwell said, "Others don't care what you know, until they know that you care."

### Imperfections

In "The Fiddler on the Roof", Tevye said, "Lord, you make many people poor...." Maybe or maybe not. But truly, no one is perfect—not even the saints, apostles or disciples of Jesus. Sometimes, our imperfections serve a purpose—they create a positive tension so that we strive hard to overcome them, or they simply serve as a grim reminder to keep us from being conceited.

Paul, in 2 Corinthians 12:7 rationalizes, "To keep me from becoming conceited, because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me..."

So, no one is perfect. What is your "thorn in the flesh"? Does that stand in the way of your success? When you plan your life and career, be wiser, practical and more creative. God has given you your talents. Now, it's your turn to use them for your success and His greater glory.

*(Mr. Cecilia is president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a business and human resources consulting firm. His twin career books, "How to Get a Job" and "How to Keep Your Job" are in popular bookstores in Metro Manila.)*

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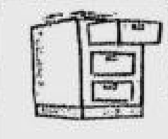

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Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

# Ten introspective ways to self-improvement

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

By Ernie O. Cecilia

WHERE do you start when you want to have significant changes in your life? Many yuppies and "umppies" (upwardly mobile professionals) are too idealistic and want to change the world. But, truly, the meaningful and significant changes that we can reasonably achieve should start with ourselves.

But what happens when our introspection tells us that we have more weaknesses than strengths, more liabilities than assets, more minuses than pluses? That's a good start, because only in knowing the problems with ourselves that we can make the right solutions and emerge victorious. Stop degrading yourself and start believing in what you can do.

### Maximizing self-worth

Here are a few tips on knowing and feeling to the max your self-worth:

1. Believe in your uniqueness. There is no one in this world like you. The totality of your whole being is unlike that of any other person. (I hope this is still true even with cloning technology.) Somehow, you must have been created with something good in you. Take heed of 1 Corinthians 12:11, "All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he gives them to each one, just as he determines."

2. Keep in mind that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. You can be beautiful in your own terms, especially if you believe in yourself and are not enslaved by societal standards that prevent you from being the best that you can be. Beauty transcends physical appearance. When the Lord asked Samuel to anoint someone, Samuel second guessed the Lord's choice when he saw a tall, handsome man. In 1 Samuel 16:6-7, "...the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.'"

### Blessings, gifts

3. Count your blessings. Surely, at one time or another, and on a regular basis, you must have received something useful, relevant, beautiful or wonderful. The Lord showers His people with equal blessings. Perhaps, the difference between the rich and the poor is their ability to receive, utilize and optimize God's blessings. When you look for negative things, you'll find them. When you look for gold and riches alone, you seldom find them. More often, when you seek to serve others first, the money follows. When you create value for others, blessings tend to come to you a hundred fold. So, just like Solomon, you should not ask for riches but for wisdom. Don't ask for fish but for the skill to fish. Be satisfied with your blessings, but optimize their use and grow them so that you will have more blessings.

4. Know that what you are is God's gift to you. But what you do with yourself is your gift to God. (How many times did we receive this text message and took it for granted?) When God gives us gifts or talents, He wants us to use them and multiply them. Remember the parable of the servants who lost, kept, or grew the talents given them? Which one does God favor? Of course, God favors the one who knows how to grow the talents and blessings he receives. If you have a skill, talent, or competency, don't just sit there. Look for a job or start a business where you can put your talents to the best use.

### Goals, mentors

5. Set reasonable goals and celebrate little victories. Set your eyes on results that you want to happen in your life. Don't set goals that are either mediocre or impossible to achieve. Always factor in an improvement that will stretch your capabilities. Whenever you achieve your goals, no matter how simple and easy they are, learn to celebrate and motivate yourself. Savor the taste of victory until you master the art and habit of winning. It is nice to heed what Colossians 3:2 admonishes, "Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things."

6. Have a good mentor or role model. If you can afford it, get a good mentor. If not, have a good role model and strive to be like your model. Successful persons attribute most of their successes to a good mentor or coach who can be dispassionate in show

10 INTROSPECTIVE/G8

## What's inside

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MARKETING BRAND 'YOU'

# How to catch the elusive dream job

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

By Regina Galang Reyes

HERE'S a letter from a reader who is looking for his dream career: "Last June 2002, I resigned from my work because of politicking inside the office. I am having difficulties now in looking for a job though I have enough work experience since I worked for more than three years in a TV station as a researcher. I've been searching now for six months. Some companies called me for interview but the jobs will not lead me to my dream career. I want to pursue a career in the corporate world. I have a background in writing because I used to contribute stories to the no.1 broadsheet newspaper. Do you think it will take long for me to find a job? I really need it because I have a nephew who studies in college who I am supporting. Could you give me some tips on job searching? Thank you."

### Patience

Here's my advice for this reader. It is laudable that you now want to take a job that will fit your dream career. It is always best to be in a job that you love. However, finding your dream job will not be easy; it will not just fall on your lap. Thus, you have to be patient and persevere in your search. On the other hand, you said that you need a job to support your nephew through college. This situation does not give you the luxury of being choosy with the work that you take. In this regard, it would seem you have to make a choice—take a job that may not fit very well with your criteria or keep on searching for your dream job and encounter financial difficulties.

There is a way out of this "either-or" scenario and it would involve changing your whole mindset or, as we HR people love to say, your "paradigm." When you look for a job that will fit with your dream career, it would be wise not to be too stringent with your standards.

What's important is that it should be aligned with what you can do best, what excites you and what will make the greatest impact on your life.

Don't look for a fantastic salary (if you are a big spender, no salary can be fantastic enough), a no-conflict workplace (definitely, in any workplace you would have to deal with conflict and office politics), or a super boss (bosses are human beings, too, and full of frailties like you and me).

If you insist in making these your "musts," I am afraid you will never have your dream career.

### Bare minimum

Instead, determine the bare minimum that you must have in a job. For example, the job is in the line of work you want to go into, it offers decent pay and sufficient benefits, and the company has a good reputation in labor-management relations. If the position offered to you fits these bare necessities, then take it. Then, once on the job, you can create your dream career. If you find that your boss is not that great or your co-workers are not that perfect, initiate moves that can create a better work climate rather than just sit and gripe. If you would like more challenging work, volunteer in task forces or ad hoc committees or offer your services to your boss in other areas of work in your department.

With this mindset, you will find it easier to evaluate your job offers. The mere fact that companies have called you up to give you a crack at their vacancies signify that you have a good chance of getting a job soon. If you are not too picky, then you'll get lucky.

*(For advice on job hunting, email rreyes@inquirer.com.ph or tune in every Wednesday from 3:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. to 66.6 on your AM dial for "People at Work sa DZRH" hosted by the author, Reggie Reyes, former DOLE secretary Atty. Benny Laguesma and broadcasters Ruth Abao Espinosa and Andy Verde.)*

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## REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

# Jesus Christ, Magnetman

By Teresa R. Tunay

IMAGINE being there when Jesus summoned Simon, Andrew, James and John on the spot. Imagine the fishermen immediately abandoning their nets and their father and going off with Him, no questions asked. Would you do the same—drop work and loved ones behind just to follow this man Jesus? I'd like to think that if He appeared before me right now and summoned me, I'd immediately toss away my laptop, too, and go off with Him to wherever, whenever.

Jesus must have been something like a human magnet, followed by multitudes wherever He went, drawing crowds whenever He settled. As a man he certainly had charisma—the stuff great leaders are made of. If you look around our country's workplaces, you may encounter many persons who are good leader material. The company president who personifies selfless dedication. The brilliant CEO who has steered the company to success. The supervisor who always encourages you with a kind word. The union leader who understands your desires and frustrations. They all exude an aura of dependability, and it's easy to become a loyal follower to such leaders.

But why—despite the presence of such charismatic leaders—are our workplaces still a far cry from the promised Utopia? Could it be that we're wasting our loyalty on unworthy leaders? One way to find out: if your leader-idol shirks suffering, makes a slave of you, won't die for a stranger, and can't resurrect himself in you—forget it, he's not worth leaving everything for.

*(E-mail the author at avemaria@csi.com.ph.)*

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

**Gospel Mk. 1: 14-20**

*Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "...The kingdom of God is at hand." ...He saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea... and said to them, "Come after me..." And they immediately abandoned their nets and followed him.*

# Workers' union

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

IN PROCLAIMING the Gospel of God, Jesus called simple and humble workers—fishermen, who readily abandoned their nets and followed Him. Jesus and His followers formed a "union of workers" for the kingdom of heaven, a "union" that has grown to be the largest community in the world—the Christian community.

There are companies that attract workers to their vision and mission by involving them in the formulation of the corporate ideals and by forming them into a strong company union—a community greatly dedicated to the interests of the company. Management, in turn, guarantees the total welfare of the workers and their families—thus making the "Kingdom of God" as preached by Jesus a reality.

Unfortunately, there are also companies that place profit over the welfare of workers, pushing the latter to organize their own union.

A strong and powerful labor union gets the adherence of the simple workers who seek protection from unfair labor practices and unscrupulous employers.

These workers are ready to leave their workplaces to stand at picket lines in order to fight for their union's demands, even to the extent of losing their jobs.

Union leaders, therefore, have the grave responsibility of advocating the genuine welfare of their followers. Labor unions should become like the 'union of Jesus'—a true community living Christian ideals. Where do we find this kind of union?

*(E-mail the author at mfvg@skyinet.net.)*

sunday
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
INQUIRER
January 26, 2003
magazine

# Katya Santos
# Sexy Thing

***Daring to transform herself from child star into sex symbol, Katya Santos bares all about being the latest in the crowded field of bold stars***

***By Ruel S. De Vera***
***Photographs by Mike Alquinto***
***Hairstyle and make-up by Nick Diaz***

*THE TRAJECTORY from tyke to teenybopper to temptress just got breathtakingly shorter. When Katrina "Katya" Santos decided to boldly go, well, bold, she generated a rather unique buzz as she set out on a path with curves as ample as her own. Unlike those teen stars-turned-topless who preceded her, Katya, now 20, is a true-blue child star, the cutest thing saying "Nge!" on "Ang TV." By then, she was already a familiar face on TV, having appeared in commercials at age 4. After a quick transformation into a sassy villainess on "Annakarenina," Katya has taken the plunge and accepted a role that called for nudity in Mac Alejandre's upcoming "Sukdulan," opening January 29 from Viva Films. On the cusp of a gasp-inducing and nerve-wracking opening night, Katya never imagined she would be doing so. "Never. I thought I would be handling wholesome roles,* mga pa-tweetums. *I never thought I would be offered sexy roles."*

*Whatever it was that made this middle child in a brood of five decide to go the sexy route, she is adamant it wasn't desperation because of a lack of roles: "I really want to do this. Honestly, you do this partly because of the financial side. I mean, why not? While it's there, while I'm young, I should grab everything that's offered to me. But I really want this.* Hindi 'to dahil sa pera *(it isn't just for the money)." To Katya, who holds a*

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By Jonathan Best

# The Visit

*Stephanie Syjuco grew up feeling very much a part of the 'hyphenated American' subculture, but a recent trip to the Philippines helped her put down new roots*

**THIS Christmas we had a long overdue and most welcome visit from my partner's oldest niece Stephanie Syjuco, who is 27 and lives with her boyfriend in San Francisco. Stephanie was born in Manila and lived in Baguio with her grandmother, Magdalena Javellana Ledesma, until she was 3, at which time she was sent to join her mother Angela Silva, who was finishing college in the United States. While still a teenager, Angela was briefly married to the artist Cesare Syjuco. After a few rough years on welfare and food stamps while getting started in America as a single mother, Angela is now a highly paid media buyer in San Francisco while Stephanie is an accomplished artist. When Stephanie was about 10, Angela married her second husband who became a loving and supportive stepfather to Stephanie.**

Stephanie, who graduated from the San Francisco Art Institute with a BFA in 1995, was invited to attend the prestigious Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture in 1997. She has gone on to exhibit her works nationally and internationally. She received a San Francisco Arts Council Grant in 1999 and a Eureka Fellowship grant in 2001. She was recently included in the 2002 exhibition, "Parallels and Intersections: Art/Women/California," a 50-year survey of women artists in California held at the San Jose Museum of Art in the heart of California's affluent silicon valley. Last year Stephanie's work was shown at the Metropolitan Museum here in Manila as part of a traveling Filipino and American exhibit titled "At Home and Abroad: 20 Contemporary Filipino Artists."

As a child, Stephanie visited the Philippines with her mother, but this was her first visit as an adult. She was here for over a month, living with us in Manila and traveling around the Visayas. It was a chance for her to explore her Philippine roots and come to terms with her Trans-Pacific, Asian identity. She had retained her Filipino citizenship up to the September 11th World Trade Center attacks in 2001 and America's subsequent war on terrorism. Those events compelled her to finally become an American citizen to obtain a US passport. She grew up feeling very much a part of the "hyphenated American" subculture. Many of her friends are Asian-Americans, African-Americans, Hispanic-Americans, gays, lesbians and other minorities and artists who flourish in the vibrant Northern California cultural melting pot. She also lived for two years in Japan as a teenager and likes to refer to herself as "*hap-pa*," the Japanese term for mixed race kids. Children with multiple ethnic backgrounds are a rapidly growing phenomenon in the United States.

**Stephanie Syjuco amid the yellow heliconias**

Coming home to the Philippines, she had expected to be surrounded by people who looked like her and was surprised to be immediately singled out as "*intsik*" in much the same way she was labeled "*chinita*" (chinky-eyed) by her Spanish American friends in San Francisco's Mission district. This was a minor irritant compared to the very real annoyance she felt walking around Manila with her white boyfriend. She hated the implication that she might be a Filipina hustler, and made a point of speaking loudly with her distinct California accent. The two of them, who have been together for almost five years now, shied away from public displays of affection and checked into hotels as a "married" couple, something they would never bother to do in America or Europe. A few days in Boracay with its corpulent, middle aged foreign males with young Filipina "chickadees" in tow convinced them never to go back to that so-called paradise. Stephanie is no prude, but says that when the reality of the Southeast Asian sex industry suddenly hits you personally, it can be quite disconcerting.

After the usual adjustments for jet lag, the heat, the traffic and the chaos of Manila, we took the couple to our favorite galleries and museums, antique shops and Malate restaurants. After a week we headed to Iloilo to show Steph the "ancestral homes" of her "illustrious" forbears and a taste of laidback Ilonggo life. Our first stop was the rustic resort of Isla Naburot run by Annie Seldaña, just off Guimaras Island. Steph couldn't get over how delicious Filipino food was and wondered why Filipino restaurants weren't popping up all over America the way Chinese, Thai, Indian and Cambodian restaurants were. Isla's food cooked on the outdoor *inihaw* (grill) and steaming *palayoks* (clay pots) are truly delicious. In Iloilo we visited Jaro Cathedral and the graves of her ancestors. Stephanie's cousin Zaffy Ledesma, the exceptionally knowledgeable curator and trustee of the Iloilo Museum, guided us around town. Dinner at Nelly Garden, the opulent 1920s mansion of one branch of the Lopez clan, was sublime.

Stephanie was duly impressed. Not having been imbued with the history of her ancestors by her hardworking mother in the States, she was quite surprised to find she had elite roots, at least in the context of Iloilo's legendary sugar barons. However, with a twinkle in his eye, Zaffy pointed out that, despite their pretensions, most of the wealthy sugar families rose from common working class stock only in the middle of the 19th century. Stephanie was curious to see the kitchens and servants' quarters and wished she could hear first hand the stories of the workers and poor Filipinos who seemed to flow in an endless sea of tricycles and jeeps around the isolated houses of the rich. In her outspoken and egalitarian American way, she found it disturbing that her wealthy forbears had lived in such luxury amid so much grinding poverty. She found unbelievable her conservative uncle Iloilo Congressman Augusto Syjuco's recent call for amputating criminals' extremities.

After Iloilo, the couple flew off to Bohol to see the ancient churches, Chocolate Hills, tarsiers and beaches. They loved Bohol and proceeded on to Siquijor to try scuba diving. She met a Filipino woman her own age, trained to be a teacher but only making P150 a day. She was debating whether to marry a middle aged German she didn't love, as she saw it as her family's only way out of poverty. Despite the pervasive poverty, Stephanie found Filipinos "amazingly warm and affectionate" and forever resourceful. A gang of kids she met on the beach in Siquijor had fashioned an entire musical band from discarded cans, bottles metal drums. She found ingenuity and creativity all around her, from the decorations on the jeeps and *sari-sari* stores to the countless uses for bamboo, coconut and rattan.

Stephanie came home to claim her Filipino roots, only to find her roots were really in America, with her family, friends and the creative community she went to school with in Berkeley and San Francisco. But she put down new roots while she was here, and plans to come back soon to start some exciting art projects. In true American fashion, she found the poverty, population explosion and lack of social justice appalling. At the same time, like most Americans she was deeply affected by the unique warmth, magic realism and boundless creativity of her Filipino *kababayans*.

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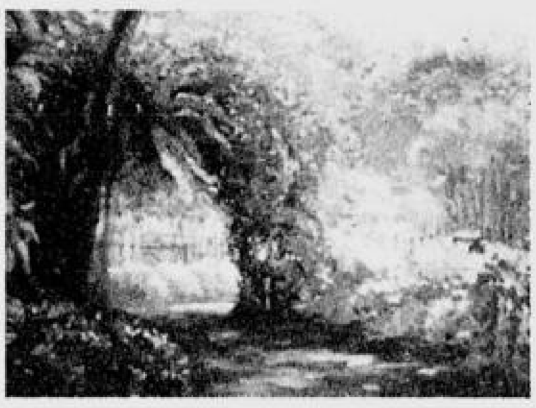

**CAMILLE'S FLORAL** Camille de la Rosa's "Wooden Trellis," oil on canvas, is part of the exhibit "Gardens in Rhapsody" at The Art Conservatory, PJL Corporate Center, 1792 N. Garcia St. corner Kalayaan Avenue, Makati City until Jan. 31. *For more of This Week, see page 11*

## Nakapagitan sa Amin

Nakapagitan sa amin
ang isang aklat.
Nakaupo siya sa silya,
abalang nagbabasa,
natatanglawan ng liwanag
ng mahabang fluorescent lamp
sa malamig na kisame. Ako naman
ay anino yatang nakatindig
sa harap ng tila umaawat
magpalapit na mesita.

Nakita ko ang aklat
na hawak ng aking anak.
"Matalino," nausal ko
"At may tiyaga sa Heswita."
Nakaukit sa pabalat
ang Padre Roque Ferriols, alam kong
awtor sa pilosopiya at teolohiya.

Tagalog? o wikang P/Filipino?
Marahil ay mabigat
para sa kanya; Inglesera
ang aking panganay.
Ako nga e di ko agad
siya maintindihan
kapag nagsalita. Gayong kapwa kami
mga anak ni San Ignacio de Loyola
na humubog sa aming makidama,
makisangkot sa iba.
Maging men- (and women) -for-others.

Esoteriko ang pamagat:
"Pagdiriwang sa Meron."

"Tungkol saan?"
nakangiti pa ako nang magtanong.
Sagot ng bagets kong anak,
nagkibit-balikat:

"Wala lang."

**Arnel S. Vitor**

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <sim@inquirer.com.ph>

## Katya

...from page 1

*management degree and looks forward to dabbling in business someday, the decision to disrobe is an eminently practical and temporary one. "This isn't what I plan to do my whole life," she says firmly.*

*Katya insists that despite the steamy pin-ups and the bed scenes, she hasn't changed at all.* "Mabait pa rin ako *(I'm still very nice)," she laughs, adding that she remains very religious. Believe it or not, she's actually still quite shy, and going nude is helping her confidence. Along with that new-found confidence has come a brutal schedule filled with pictorials and appearances, and she admits missing being able to just be lazy. She is just 20, after all. Yet the leap from notebook covers to tabloid centerfold has turned Katya into everybody's business—right now, she's hot, hot, hot. Now it's just a matter of finding out whether she can ride this bareback vehicle to stardom or swaddle herself in the robe of obscurity. But Katya is not worried at all, she claims. In this surprisingly candid conversation with* SIM, *the newest sex kitten is unapologetic and maintains no illusions about where she wants to go.*

**SIM: You were first asked to go bold when you were just 16. You had rejected similar roles for the movies "Scorpio Nights 3," "Tatarin" and "Balahibong Pusa." Why did you accept this role, four years after your first bold offer?**

**Katya**: I wasn't ready, I was still studying and my parents were really against it. Now, I'm a graduate and I'm 20, the right age. Finally, my parents let me do it.

**SIM: Did you personally want to go in this direction?**

**Katya**: I really didn't want to before. But then they had suggested it and I remembered it. In the past four years, I was thinking of going bold, then not going bold. Until finally, they offered this role to me, and I accepted it. I really couldn't make up my mind.

**SIM: There is a prevalent notion that going bold has become a required move for teenage actresses who want to be big when they grow up. How do you feel about this?**

**Katya**: If this had been the stepping stone I wanted to take, I would have taken it a long time ago. The thing is, this is my profession. This is what I want to do. *Kung gusto kong magpaka*-wholesome, *walang mangyayari sa akin. Ang dami na nila diyan.* (If I wanted to stay wholesome, nothing would come out of it. So many of them are doing that). If I don't take this chance, I'll regret it. *Sayang*. I feel this is where I'm supposed to be.

**SIM: Do we really need another teen star-turned-sexy star? What do you have that we haven't seen before?**

**Katya**: It's needed *talaga*. People here in the Philippines, especially when it comes to sexy stars, they want a lot of choices, *nagsisiksikan*. The more the merrier. One thing that makes me different is that *wala akong retoke* (I haven't had any work done).

**SIM: You're being marketed as a sexy star who's "100 percent natural" with the title *"Materyales Fuertes."* That being the case, how do you feel about cosmetic surgery?**

**Katya**: I have nothing against it. Me, I would probably like it. If it would make me more attractive, why not? This is our job. I do think of that and I'm very open to that. But me personally, I don't like it because I'm scared of the side effects. I'm not saying I have a problem with plastic surgery, I'm just scared of the medical effects after five years.

**SIM: What do you plan to do after this career choice?**

**Katya**: I probably won't stay in bold movies for a long time. After this, I want other roles. And then, I want to go into business. My family has a business and that's what I really want to do. I don't want to be an *artista* my entire life. *Hindi ko makakaya* (I can't handle that). Acting is a very temporary thing. I don't see it as my future. It's not what I want to do my entire life.

**SIM: Is there an actress whose career you want to emulate?**

**Katya**: I'd like to have a career like Rosanna Roces. If not hosting a talk show, then at least something away from bold movies. As in, *tama na*. There's a time when you yourself will feel that it's enough. I've graduated from that. *Pagbigyan natin yung mga bagong gusto pumasok* (let's give a chance to the newcomers). But I'm just giving myself a few years in these roles. I just want to try this.

**SIM: So how has the whole movie-making experience for you?**

**Katya**: I watched other movies before watching my own. Honestly, I feel like this movie is different because it's really a love story. It just so happened that the story required *na maghubad ako* (that I would appear nude). It's really made differently. *Napakaganda*. When I watched it, I was so hyper after. I thought it was really great. I loved the ending. *Pero secret na lang yon*. You have to watch it yourself.

**SIM: What do you like doing in your spare time? Do you feel like it would change now that you're going the bold route?**

**Katya**: I like spending time ,by myself, drinking coffee. But I can't stay home the whole day. I'd look for somewhere to go with my friends. I get bored at home. I don't really see it changing. If I have just a little time to myself, I text my friends, "*Hoy*, meet *naman tayo*." I really love my friends.

**SIM: Are you conscious at all about how you'll be perceived in public now that you're appearing in "Sukdulan"? Do you worry about what other people think of you as a person?**

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**Music**

*By Cristina B. Gomez*

VAL HANDUMON

*Acoustic singing sensation Paolo Santos has taken Manila's night life by storm. Not bad for this economics graduate who had never looked at music as his life's work*

# The Atypical *Kilabot*

**THE HOTTEST thing in the Metro's live music scene is not your typical *kilabot ng mga kolehiyala* (coed's crush) type. Paolo Santos is a bit scrawny to be a heartthrob, but wait till you hear him play in one of the six, sometimes eight, shows he does every week in popular clubs from Timog to Libis. Then you'll know why the college set—and a lot of after-office night owls—can't stop themselves from swooning.**

Santos is a refreshing act to watch. Armed only with a guitar and singing mostly '70s folk and R&B in that laid-back, no-major-production style one rarely finds of late, it is safe to say he might just be singlehandedly paving the way for the big comeback of solo folk performances. The places get jampacked everywhere Paolo plays these days. From performing at lesser known spots, he's recently landed gigs in the more affluent strips of Malate and Makati. Just recently, he's added Rockwell to his itinerary.

Even celebs have been converted. Among his most popular followers are Ogie Alcasid, Jaya, Dingdong Dantes and Judy Ann Santos, who takes off for a Paolo gig everytime she can get away from her busy schedule. "Judy Ann saw me play at Dingdong Dantes' birthday party," Paolo enthuses. "From then on, we became very, very good friends." Paolo says. "She's very, very funny and very, very beautiful, especially in person. Crush *ko yon eh!*"

At 27, Paolo Santos is everything he never expected to be. He was set to live the corporate life. After all, he was an Economics graduate from De La Salle University.

Three years ago, Paolo was an account officer at one of the top financial firms in the country. "Music," he says, "wasn't really the objective as far as my career path was concerned."

But talent and luck started paving a new road for him. Impressed by Paolo's innate gift as a musician, one of his officemates convinced him to audition as a part-time singer at some popular music bars. He did, and got a regular gig at Arts Avenue in Ortigas.

Paolo started playing only on weekends, while keeping his day job during the week. It was all he ever wanted, or so he thought at the time. He was being paid P800 for 30 songs, and he never complained. He was thankful enough to be able to sing and still keep a real job. After managing to establish a good following in just six months, the manager gave Paolo a raise, and other music bars started showing interest.

Soon, the weekend gigs became weeklong affairs. And no matter how Paolo tried to sustain both jobs, he ended up compromising both. "If I go to work in the office, I'll be too sleepy to go to work at night. Then when I work at night, I'd also be too sleepy and worried because I had to wake up early to go to my day job."

Paolo had no choice but to end the juggling act. "I ended up at a crossroads: Should I pursue a stable career or what I love to do? It was a very difficult decision to make, especially considering the security factor." Obviously, the call of music became too powerful to resist.

Paolo's gigs are often solo acoustic performances. "I play the guitar on my gigs," he says. "I'm the only one onstage so I have to capitalize on my talent." Paolo's repertoire covers different music genres, but he sticks to those he considers good music. He does heartfelt cover versions of songs from Paul Carrack, Michael Tom Wilson and Jazon Muraz, important musicians from the '70s folk scene.

While he does play a lot of more familiar music, "Can You Read My Mind," the theme from Superman, is not in his repertoire. "At first, some people would ask me to please play it *naman*, so I say in a nice but humorous way that they should try other bars. It became a running joke. Everytime I play, people would ask me to play 'Superman' and laugh, because they know I hate the song!"

What Paolo still finds difficult adjusting to is the madness that he has created even among 14-year-old clubgoers. "I check out Pinoy Exchange and there's a chat room of young people talking about me—it's weird! I'm afraid of success because it stops you from growing. There are a lot of things to change—the way I sing, the way I play, the way I look. I have to gain weight."

Even now, Paolo can't believe where his talent has taken him. Now, he finds himself onstage with the best musicians in the industry, and is looking forward to doing an album with some of them. True Faith is interested, and a friend of his has also suggested a collaboration with Passage Band.

This month, Paolo will also be launching a CD which may feature the music of flutist Jong Cuenco, Bituin Escalante, and Acoustic Jive's Romy Jorolan. "It's unbelievable *kasi* that at a very adult age, I was still watching these people play. I wasn't even into playing at all. *Tapos* I ended up sharing the stage with them so *parang*, 'Wow, *labo*!' That's why I really thank God."

Paolo's album is being handled by Acoustic Gold Productions, of which he is part-owner. "We put up the company to protect ourselves from the corporate aspect of the industry. So technically, I am managing myself but I let someone else handle the money so I won't be bothered, considering my busy schedule."

As early as December, Paolo's book has been filled up until April. "We planned this for two and a half years. We will have an independent production company, an independent label, and we will produce a CD for the sake of having one on the shelf."

Everything that Paolo commits himself to right now is part of his grand plan in the music industry, to stay in it for as long as he can. "I'm planning on playing 10 more years, and I'll be happy.

Probably by then, I'll still be around the music business, whether management-wise or production-wise and playing on the side. If I can do this for the rest of my life, why not?"

---

**LoveNotes**

*By Joe D' Mango*

# A Chapter that Refuses to Close

***I wanted to know where I stand with him, but he wasn't saying anything and I didn't want to seem too presumptuous.***

*Dear Joe,*

*This doesn't sound like me. I'm usually in control of almost everything that is happening in my life, but not with this. I'm in dire need of your help, Joe.*

*I'm a college student, five terms away from being a yuppie. People say I'm ideal because I'm the older-sister type, but they do not know that what is preventing me from moving on is something I've left unsettled back in high school.*

*I met this guy, let's call him Luke, in high school. We practically saw each other grow up, from kids running around the campus in soiled uniforms to refined teens. We joined the same orgs, shared the same set of friends and class section without noticing each other's good points, until our second year in high school. Next thing I knew, he was bringing me home, giving me gifts, calling me up every night—you know, the typical first moves of teenagers.*

*Luke is a fine young gentleman, Joe, quiet, intelligent, kind, simple and down-to-earth. He was so quiet around girls that people on campus called him a snob. And then when they started teasing us, they began to call him "torpedo." His attentiveness went on for two years without him putting his feelings into words. During the latter part of our last year in high school, I started thinking hard. I began to reassess this whole thing. I asked myself such questions as: Where do I stand? What the heck does he want from me? Am I being used here?*

*We belong to different religions, so I knew it wasn't going to work for us. And at that time, I wasn't allowed to have a boyfriend yet, especially a non-Protestant. These I knew from the start. But since he wasn't saying anything about how he felt, I didn't know how to tell him as I didn't want to be too presumptuous.*

*It was at that point that pity began to set in. I started blaming myself for making him wait too long for something that would never happen. But then again, I didn't have any concrete proof of what he was really up to since he's been quiet the whole time.*

*One week before graduation, I decided to tell him that I would not want to wait for the time when he would ask me and that the answer he would be getting is "no." I was crying the whole time. I didn't hear anything from him. All I heard was his goodbye before I hung up. After that, he would always avoid the topic everytime I brought it up.*

*I know I liked him and that I was close to falling for him. It's been over two years since that conversation and we never got to talk about it. We would see each other in school (we go to the same university) at batch gatherings and all we can say is a casual "Hi!"*

*I'm over him now, Joe, I know I am. All I want is peace of mind. But I can't just leave things at that. I want to hear if he's okay. It's a chapter in my life that I have yet to close. Help me.*

Sharlene

Dear Sharlene,

The reason many of us suffer inside is because most of us are afraid to say what we feel. Luke obviously liked you then but he probably just didn't know how to say it. His actions spoke louder than his words but he was taking his time. And you weren't as patient. You wanted to know if there was anything behind the special attention he was giving you. I honestly think that there was. He probably just didn't have the courage to show it.

Sharlene, if you think that there will be closure when you finally talk to him about this then, by all means, talk to him. I think both of you can handle your emotions better now. Sometimes, the only person who can wake us from our dreams is the person we are dreaming about. His thoughts about you should clear the big cloud of questions still obscuring your sight. Then and only then can you finally move on.

Sharlene, I feel that you are still hopeful about Luke. Your fondness for him might have diminished but he is still in your heart. Maybe this chapter refuses to close because it isn't finished yet.

Let us always remember not to put too many conditions on love. Love, in its truest essence, shouldn't be bound by rules set by men. It is a gift from God and only those who are not afraid to show it will find and keep it.

Special | Promotion

"Just being there made me feel like a buoy lost among wave upon wave of revelers"

# AmazingSinulog

## *Living Life* @ the SPEED OF THOUGHT

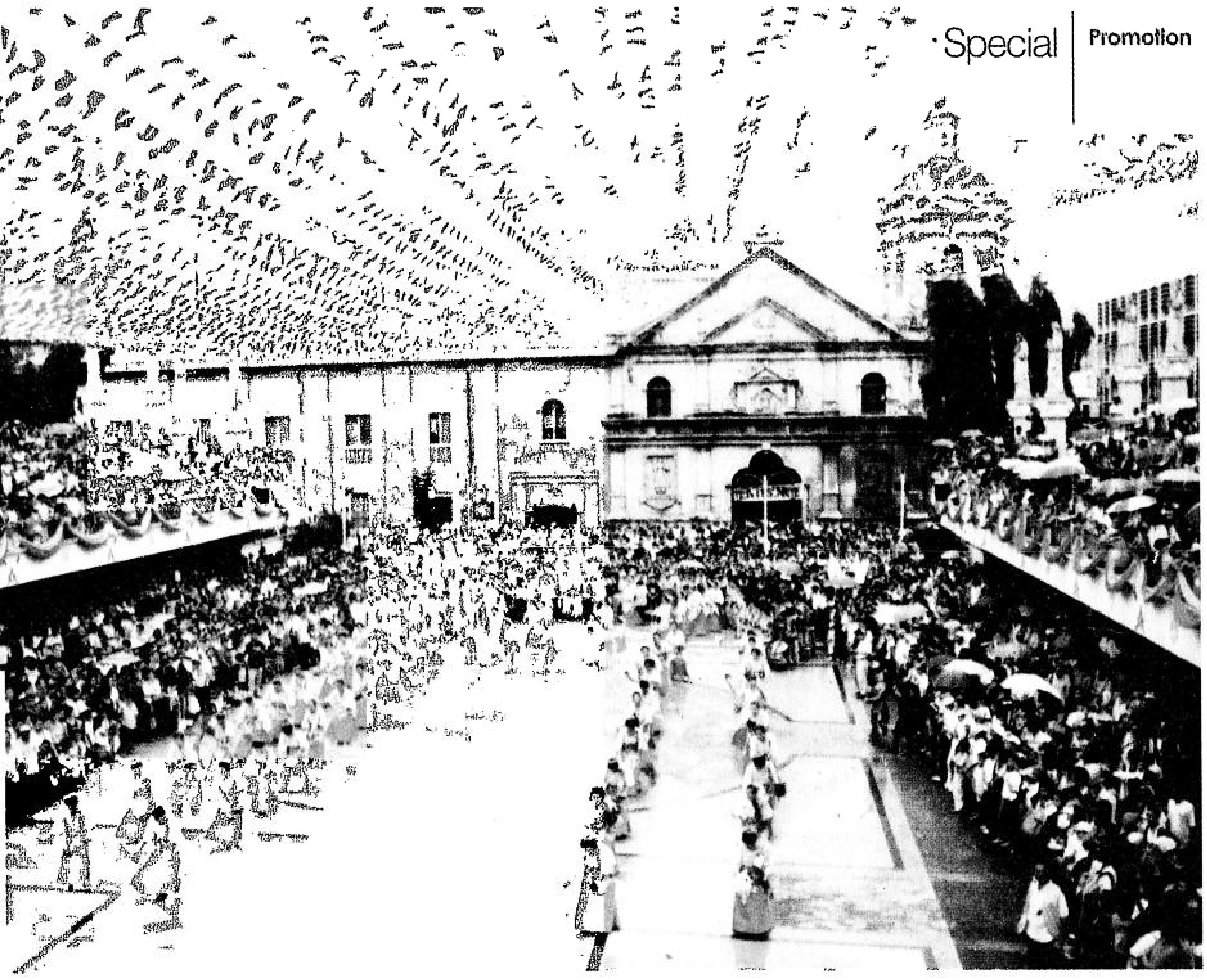
Who would have believed I would have ended up here? After a work week full of starched collars and ironed neckties, I found myself lost in a sea of the Mardi Gras-like characters of Sinulog, dancing among them and celebrating to the beat of a thousand drums. The pulsing sounds reverberated through my head as I gulped down another sip of frothy malt delight in honor of my patron saint. It seemed surreal to be surrounded by the intoxicating energy of live music and thousands of costumed dancers in a spectrum of colors, instead of the usual cast of corporate-attired men and women who's life like mine were composed of too many meetings to attend, too many reports to generate, too many clients to call – you get the picture. "The most important rule of travel is getting to the place you desire," and all it takes to satisfy that wonder lust is by taking that first step.

As far as I know, Bill Gates has never been to Cebu. But had he, by the remotest chance, decided to grace our sunny shores, I would have wanted to thank him for being one of the inspirations for me to change my life. My view of the world took on a whole new perspective when I finished reading his book, Business @ the Speed of Thought. In his oracle-like prophetic novel, he wrote that the future of business was to come to the realization that the internet and modern communications had hammered home the final nail in the coffin of slow-paced old world living; typed memos for distribution, snail mail, meeting people "next week" – all the red tape in life could be buried with the past generation. These days the best time to execute your ideas is RIGHT NOW! If you're still working on last year's ideas in tomorrow's world, forget it! The ship has sailed, and you've missed the boat.

I say why not LIFE @ the Speed of Thought? It's been many years since I've had the nagging impulse to fly to Sinulog and enjoy the throngs of gyrating people covered in sequins and feathers singing, shimmying, and twirling like a band of whirling dervishes. How many times did that urge to just fly off to Cebu get filed away in the "I'll-do-it-later" section of my brain where it soured in my memory bank? It was necessary to move beyond that OBSOLETE mind set of planning for my next two-week vacation up to a year in advance. This time, Sinulog, which has remained the fiesta to attend, moved from my wish list to reality. I realized that the possibility to do this was at the tip of my fingers all along.

You see I had recently discovered, or rather "rediscovered" the SMART lifestyle. Why should I be trapped in the office and have to forego my desires to live a fulfilled life, thereby restricting my chances of experiencing the best that life can offer, when I can easily do my work and remain connected while being anywhere I wanted? With the largest coverage in the country boasting 2,800 cell sites spanning the valleys and peaks of the Philippines, I could always count on SMART to provide me with crystal clear connections to my office and home while traipsing through our beautiful country. Equipped with internet capabilities, SMART has also kept me up-to-date with any suppliers back home and e-mail I may need to check. SMART Money allows me to keep my phone credit up, which is essential as I can't help but frequently send vivid pictures to my friends and family in the city to show them what they were missing by staying home. SMART has truly opened the doors to the possibility of traveling and yet remaining connected and I jumped at this opportunity to fly off to that veritable feast for the senses that was Sinulog. Traveling through the myriad of streets and nightspots in Cebu was definitely going to put all the new features of my SMART network and Nokia 7650 to the absolute most enjoyable test.

ADVT.



*Vice Mayor Michael Rama welcoming the media*

*Mayor Tommy Osmeña cheers on the many performers [illegible]*

*Director Edgar Mortiz and Ratsky owner Randy Santiago*

*Priscilla Cortez, Jennifer Neri & Melissa Aredondo*

*Marc Nelson with Smart admirers*

## A Road Less Travelled

"It's a celebration of life! If we based it on the number of people in attendance, Sinulog would be the biggest festival in the country. This is most certainly the place to be," Mayor Tommy Osmeña said to me my 1st day at Sinulog. He further went on to explain the dance performed to honor the miraculous image of the Santo Niño, "The dance moves two steps forward and one step backward" he told me as the best of the Tribu Congo Pardo contingent bateria echoed through my head. Apparently, the movement was made to resemble the current, Sulog, where the pattern of movement of the crest and trough were not unlike the beating of the drum.

Just being there made me feel like a buoy lost among wave upon wave of revelers that filled the avenues of Cebu with magic for three nights a year in a medley of costumed fantasy. The energy, a testament to the exuberant nature of famous Cebuano spirit, filled the air with flavor and joie de vivre.

## Ratsky's Surprise

As if the afternoon's fantastic performances weren't enough, you'll never know where you might end up with access through that velvet rope. I swear I had no intention of cutting through the line at Ratsky, Randy Santiago's happening bar, that night. It certainly didn't surprise me to be greeted by what resembled a Russian breadline snaking away into the abyss of the mall as I arrived that evening. I moved to the front of the line to inquire with the lady about the entrance fees and was told – "Sorry Sir, tonight we have a special with Aubrey Miles performing in the house" With that one utterance, I felt like she had thrown a match on my kerosene-soaked body and was able to imagine what spontaneous human combustion must have felt like. Then reality bit as I turned back to the line and realized I would have to cool my heels and line up and then pay the entrance fee on top of that.

And then – magic! -- "Sir," she said to me "do you happen to be a SMART subscriber?" I shot her a quizzical look as I showed her my SMART Gold logo and before I could say "Whatever-I-desire @ the Speed of Thought", I was in! It was as if someone was listening to my fervent prayers.

Walking through the sea of bodies in the bar was like engaging in extreme sports. So much so that at one point, I was thrown off balance and into a seat right beside that heavenly body (it's no wonder she's called a star!) that can only go by one name. I needed no pinching, this was no dream, I was next to the sultry babe herself, Aubrey Miles! And doubt my story, I've got the evidence @ the speed of thought to show right on my SMART MMS capable Nokia 7650 to prove it!

*It sure pays to be Smart!*

Now if only I had saved her number on my 64K SIM, I would have had to quote Martin Nievera and call the evening "Simply Amazing!"

## LA VIDA LOCA at MI VIDA

The word carnival is derived from the Latin carnis (flesh) and vale (farewell) which, simply put, means solace of the flesh. At my next stop, I was once again waved through with my SMART pass and I could clearly understand why the word "carnival" was the best choice to describe the scene that greeted me at the club Mi Vida. Infectious samba beat coursed through my bones urging my feet to dance and my hips to shake wildly. It felt so good to tap into that long forgotten motor skill hidden away in that special place in my mind.

Sipping a cocktail to cool down in this hot spot was another complimentary gift from SMART. But as I cooled my parched throat, the beautiful women of Cebu raised the bar once more to fever pitch. Now I know why this surreal island is the best kept secret of the south… who wouldn't raise a glass to that?

## Vudu Lounge

As three a.m. rolled around, I was still pumped with energy and decided to go for a nightcap at one more bar, not knowing that the best was saved for last. Vudu's owner, John Paul Chiongbian, surely must have cast a spell on the crowd as I could not spot a single person sitting down. If Pravda is where the beautiful people congregate in Manila, this was the mecca for those in Cebu. I met stunning SMART endorsers Ina Chiongbian and Kristine Del Gallego while admiring the crowd and was informed that fiesta or not, the crème de la crème would always congregate at Vudu to enjoy the unparalled nightlife energy till the wee hours of the morning.

At 5:30 a.m. I made my serpentine way back to my hotel room where I collapsed into contented sleep to re-charge for the next day's festivities.

## Simply Amazing Sinulog Festival

*Have you ever measured a day by a heart beat instead of by the clock?*

As I approached the main area of the festival parade the next day, I could immediately feel the pulsing beat that was the heart and soul of Sinulog. I was appropriately donning a headset with a three-foot high feather and matching face paint – "When in Rome do as the Romans do" the saying goes. Of course, it was a far cry from my Manila wear, but Sinulog was shouting to all who would listen to "Loosen up and live a little!" It was a call to the adventurous spirit in each of us prompting us to come out and taste the freedom of exciting travel.

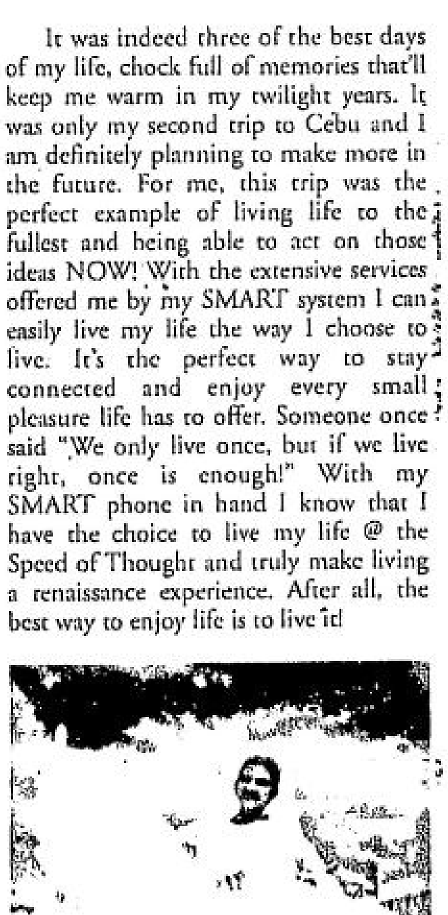
My 7650 clicked away, and if pictures are worth a thousand words, then sending these fun-filled images to my folks back home was the perfect way to share those magical moments. It was amazing to realize how far a few pesos would go with SMART PIX to instantly raise the "envy factor" of your friends instead of those old postcards that arrive a month later. These were my postcards @ the speed of thought - because the best time to share that exciting snapshot of life is when you think of it.

"This year we have 121 contingents offering their best performances showcasing their respective groups and provinces," said Vice Mayor Michael Rama of this year's turnout. Indeed, the floats and contingents seemed to never end as the performers kept up the intoxicating rhythm as they moved through the streets of the city up to the overflowing stage at the Cebu Sports Complex. Giants on stilts, tribal men with spears, floats with pixies and fairies, Aztec Incas, and even women dressed in Japanese kimonos flooded in one by one as if some strange door from another dimension had opened up. Even the burning sun could not dampen the enthusiasm of the thousands of excited onlookers. When the hypnotic heat became unbearable, revelers would simply seek solace in the shade of SMART banners that adorned every post along the way.

Pomp and pageantry was in tall order as the last of the contingents performed their dances on the floor. The fantastic show ended with an amazing display of fireworks streaking through the night sky as hundreds of pyrotechnics marked the smashing success of Sinulog 2003!

## Choosing To Live @ THE SPEED OF THOUGHT

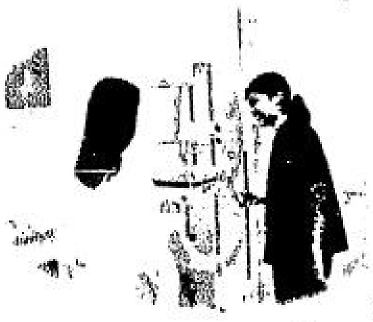
It was indeed three of the best days of my life, chock full of memories that'll keep me warm in my twilight years. It was only my second trip to Cebu and I am definitely planning to make more in the future. For me, this trip was the perfect example of living life to the fullest and being able to act on those ideas NOW! With the extensive services offered me by my SMART system I can easily live my life the way I choose to live. It's the perfect way to stay connected and enjoy every small pleasure life has to offer. Someone once said "We only live once, but if we live right, once is enough!" With my SMART phone in hand I know that I have the choice to live my life @ the Speed of Thought and truly make living a renaissance experience. After all, the best way to enjoy life is to live it!



ADVT.

## A COMMITMENT TO WOMEN

Globally, no other company has raised more money and contributed more resources for women's causes than Avon. Through creative promos, it has raised US$250 million for the Avon Worldwide Fund for Women's Health, which now supports various projects in at least 30 countries.



The PGH Breast Care Center houses a new mammography machine which will be instrumental in helping women detect early signs of breast cancer.

Through the efforts of Avon, the Philippine General Hospital (PGH) recently opened a Breast Care Center, a facility equipped with a mammography machine that caters mainly to indigent patients. The center is housed on the second floor of the PGH Cancer Institute in Padre Faura.

The center was built with funds raised from the sale of special edition Kiss Goodbye to Breast Cancer lipsticks. This project marked the 10-year partnership of Avon and the Philippine Cancer Society, Inc. Through its *Bigay Alam ay Bigay Buhay Cancer Awareness Campaign*, Avon in partnership with the Philippine Cancer Society has imparted to countless women valuable, life-saving information on breast cancer through seminars, training sessions, and literature ingeniously incorporated in its product packaging.

Avon believes health is beauty and therefore encourages women to stay well and fit. In 1998 it launched the *Avon Running Global Women's Circuit* to promote the easiest, most inexpensive and most effective forms of exercise: walking and running.

Avon's Kiss Goodbye to Breast Cancer campaign last March 2002 underscored the company's mission to help serve women afflicted with the disease. Two hundred Filipino women flock daily to the PGH Breast Cancer Center seeking hope and aid in their battle against cancer.

The Company for Women also supports education, a field dominated by women. For the past 14 years, Avon has been conducting an annual nationwide search for outstanding female elementary and high school principals in coordination with the Department of Education. Through this program, Avon's hope of uplifting the standard of education in the country is becoming a reality.

Honoring Filipino educators through the Gintong Ilawan-Teodora Alonso Educator's Award. Photo shows Gintong Ilawan 2001 Awardee Dr. Josefina Suarez of Elizabeth Seton School (center) with (from left) Jose Mari Franco, Avon Area Vice President for Southern Asia; Malu Dy Buncio, Avon Cosmetics, Inc. General Manager; Ben Gallina, Avon Senior Vice President-Asia Pacific; and Fernando Lezama, Former Executive Vice President for Avon Asia Pacific OBU.

Aside from corporate programs, the company also awards scholarships to children of sales representatives who have achieved outstanding sales performance.

The youth is also a priority for Avon. Last year, the *Avon Teen Advisory Council* was formed to recognize outstanding girls and to present them as teen role models.

## A LASTING PARTNERSHIP

Serendipity led a door-to-door salesman to his pot of gold: a bottle of perfume peddled by a woman. David McConnell realized that his sample fragrances were more popular than his books, so in 1886 he put up a perfume

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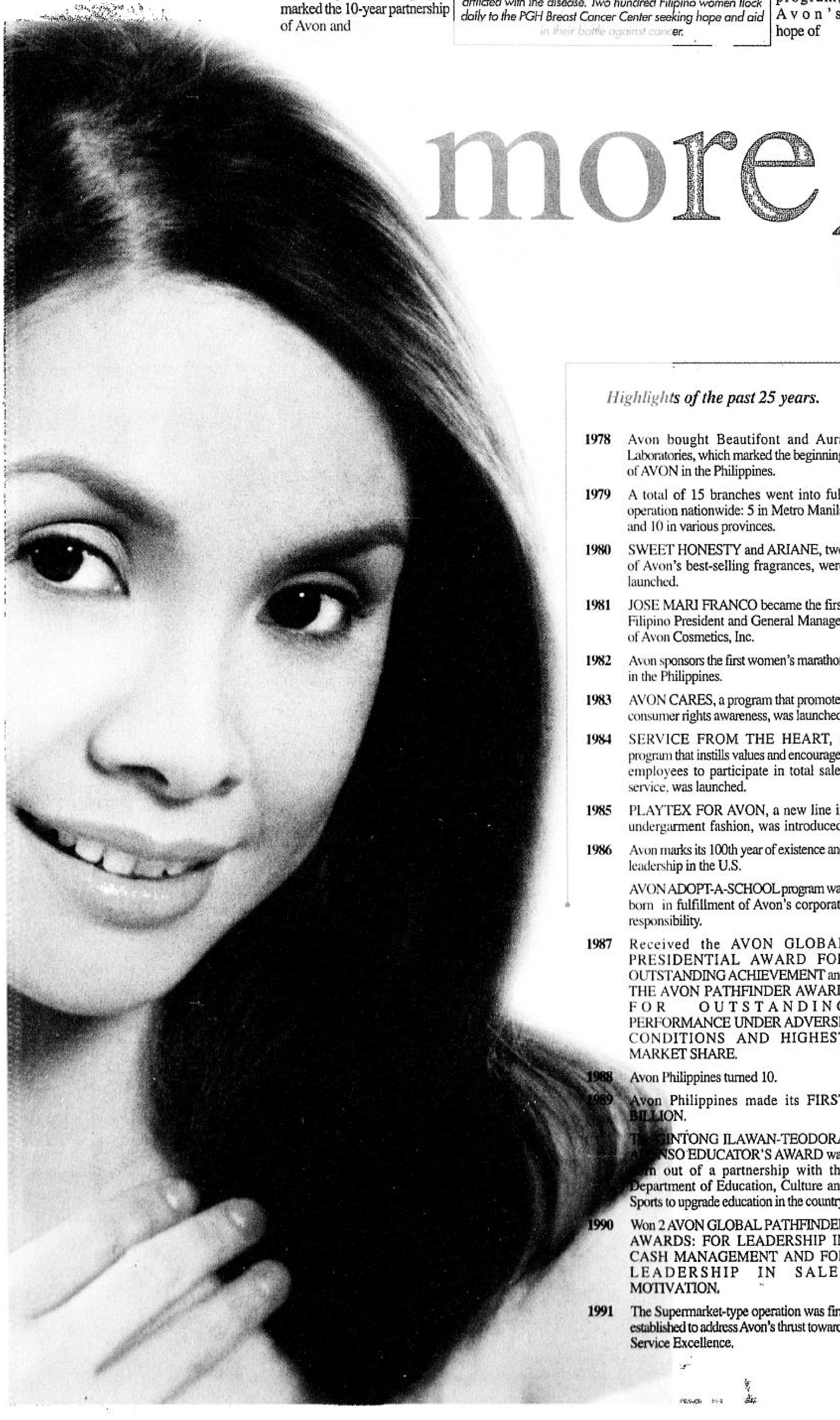

# more alive
# twen

*Highlights of the past 25 years.*

| | |
|---|---|
| 1978 | Avon bought Beautifont and Aura Laboratories, which marked the beginning of AVON in the Philippines. |
| 1979 | A total of 15 branches went into full operation nationwide: 5 in Metro Manila and 10 in various provinces. |
| 1980 | SWEET HONESTY and ARIANE, two of Avon's best-selling fragrances, were launched. |
| 1981 | JOSE MARI FRANCO became the first Filipino President and General Manager of Avon Cosmetics, Inc. |
| 1982 | Avon sponsors the first women's marathon in the Philippines. |
| 1983 | AVON CARES, a program that promotes consumer rights awareness, was launched. |
| 1984 | SERVICE FROM THE HEART, a program that instills values and encourages employees to participate in total sales service, was launched. |
| 1985 | PLAYTEX FOR AVON, a new line in undergarment fashion, was introduced. |
| 1986 | Avon marks its 100th year of existence and leadership in the U.S. |
| | AVON ADOPT-A-SCHOOL program was born in fulfillment of Avon's corporate responsibility. |
| 1987 | Received the AVON GLOBAL PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT and THE AVON PATHFINDER AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE UNDER ADVERSE CONDITIONS AND HIGHEST MARKET SHARE. |
| 1988 | Avon Philippines turned 10. |
| 1989 | Avon Philippines made its FIRST BILLION. |
| | THE GINTONG ILAWAN-TEODORA ALONSO EDUCATOR'S AWARD was born out of a partnership with the Department of Education, Culture and Sports to upgrade education in the country. |
| 1990 | Won 2 AVON GLOBAL PATHFINDER AWARDS: FOR LEADERSHIP IN CASH MANAGEMENT AND FOR LEADERSHIP IN SALES MOTIVATION. |
| 1991 | The Supermarket-type operation was first established to address Avon's thrust towards Service Excellence. |
| 1992 | AVON COLOR, now the largest selling makeup brand in the Philippines, was first introduced. |
| 1993 | AVON FASHIONS INTIMATE APPAREL was launched followed by the BIGAY ALAM AY BIGAY BUHAY cancer awareness program. |
| | Won the AVON GLOBAL PATHFINDER AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP IN COMPETITIVE RESPONSE. |
| 1994 | ANEW Complex For Face was launched in the Philippines. ANEW started the anti-aging revolution worldwide and was named PRODUCT of the YEAR by TIME Magazine and TECHNOLOGICAL BREAKTHROUGH PRODUCT in 1992. |
| 1995 | Won the AVON STAR OF ASIA AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE and the CHAIRMAN'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN ASIA-PACIFIC. |
| 1996 | Won the highly prestigious AVON FLAME AWARD FOR MANAGEMENT LEADERSHIP and THE CUSTOMER GROWTH AWARD in the whole Avon world. |
| | Tony awardee and internationally-renowned artist LEA SALONGA was launched as image model of AVON COLOR. |
| 1997 | Won the AVON GLOBAL VISION LEADERSHIP AWARD. |
| 1998 | Won the AVON GLOBAL PATHFINDER AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP IN MANAGING THROUGH ECONOMIC ADVERSITY. |
| 1999 | Mega launch of the global advertising campaign -LET'S TALK. |
| 2000 | MALU DY BUNCIO became the first woman to be appointed General Manager of Avon Cosmetics Inc. |
| 2001 | Avon made 1 BILLION in the month of September alone, the highest monthly sales ever! |
| | Awarded TOP 3 BEST EMPLOYER in Asia. |
| 2002 | AVON TEEN ADVISORY COUNCIL was created. |
| | KISS GOODBYE TO BREAST CANCER was launched in March. The successful campaign helped build the Breast Care Center in PGH with the sale of 1 MILLION lipsticks. |

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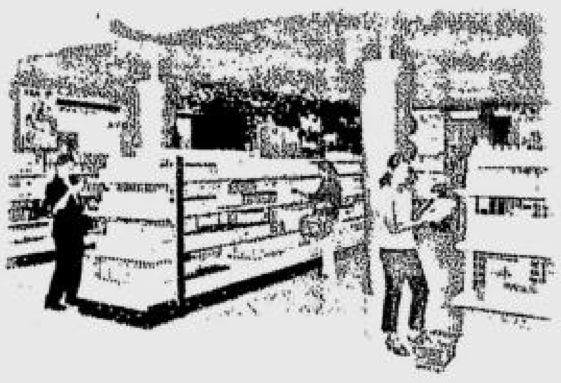
any and hired a n to sell his wares. st sales representative ited other women, ng the first team of sful businesswomen.

New York-based ne company is now orld's leading direct of beauty products. It amed after Shakespeare's English own, Stratford-upon-Avon. Today, its cts reach women in 143 countries h 3.5 million epresentatives, popularly n as Avon s. Since the ny's founding, 40 million n worldwide sold Avon ts.



. there are more 00,000 Filipino n whose lives hanced and improved by meaningful opportunities offered by Avon. These n join the ranks of Avon Ladies for many s: to supplement their family income in to meet the ever-growing household ses; to achieve financial independence; be able to establish and grow their ss in their own time.

Their reasons for joining may vary, but there is one reason that these women have remained as loyal, hardworking sales representatives through the years. Avon offers them a unique opportunity not just to earn money but more importantly to grow as entrepreneurs. Owning a house and lot or travelling around the world need no longer be mere castles in the air. Avon is aware of the aspirations of its sales representatives and has the programs to bring them closer to those dreams. By providing them with quality products and irresistible offers to bring to their customers and giving them opportunity to grow professionally through training programs, Avon ensures that their dreams of financial independence and security are well within reach.

Avon's commitment to coming out with quality, breakthrough products for women is equalled by its commitment to offer career-minded representatives the wonderful chance to grow and succeed.

AVON PHILIPPINES
25
years of beauty

# at ty-five!

**ANDREA JUNG**
*Chairman & Chief Executive Officer*
*Avon Products, Inc.*

to take a moment to extend to all of my s in Avon Philippines my heartfelt tulations on your 25-year anniversary. truly a milestone for an incredible team, nique opportunity to celebrate how you elped transform the lives of thousands of o women.

I stop to think about how far our business n Philippines has come over the past 25 it's truly staggering. The numbers lves tell part of the story:

Sales: P10 Billion now, compared to P178 n in 1978
er of active franchise dealers: 220,000 ersus 18,000 then
es of locations: 110 branches/service rs now, versus 15 branches then
es of customers served: More than 6 n now, versus 486,000 then

really your passion, your dedication and ommitment--no matter the size of the ge--that set you apart.

proud of all you have accomplished. I you have what it takes for even greater ements in the next 25 years. So on behalf management team in New York and all Avon, congratulations and the best of luck tinued success.

**SUSAN KROPF**
*President & Chief Operating Officer*
*Avon Products, Inc*

As you celebrate the 25th anniversary of Avon Philippines, I congratulate and salute all of the Associates and Representatives, who have worked so hard to make this milestone possible.

To me Avon Philippines represents the very "heart" of Avon. During each of my visits to your country, I've always been struck by the warmth of the people. In particular, the strong bond and connection between Representatives and Avon epitomize what our company is all about. Your passion for the business and your commitment to success make you a standout across the entire Avon world.

I know these 25 years have not been easy. Time and again, you've faced extraordinary adversity and crisis--whether it be a natural disaster, political unrest or economic turmoil. You always end up pulling together, showing tremendous resolve, and finding a way to win. For all these reasons, I thank and commend you.

So congratulations again on this tremendous achievement, and I wish you all continued happiness and success.

**JOSE MARI FRANCO**
*President*
*Avon Cosmetics, Inc.*
*and Vice President for*
*Avon Southern Asia*

The year 2003 holds a lot of promises for all of us since it marks Avon Philippines' 25th anniversary.

When Avon was established twenty-five years ago, we responded to a need to support Filipino women in every way we can. More than the products, more than the sales, Avon played a very important role in meeting the needs of Filipino women by giving thousands of Avon Ladies an opportunity to earn and help other women. It is this commitment to women that has made Avon truly successful.

Today, Avon is the undisputed number one beauty company in the Philippines. And yet, the most important thing has not changed--the Avon vision --to be the company for women.

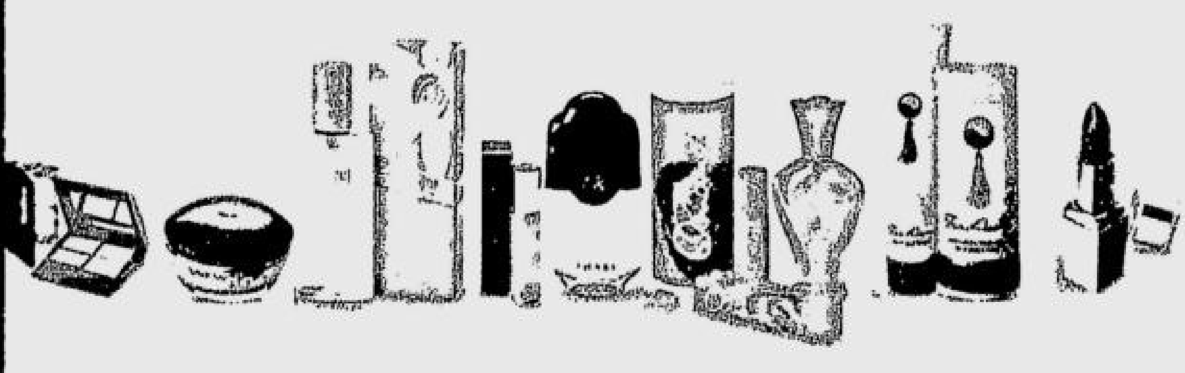
And for the next twenty-five years, Avon will continue to be the leader in supporting women through self-empowerment, financial independence, and health & fitness programs. More than ever, we are committed to serving more customers with better products and exciting promos.

**MALU DY BUNCIO**
*General Manager*
*Avon Cosmetics, Inc.*

"Avon, More Alive at 25" embodies the spirit we all need to have as we move forward to the future.

We are proud to be a part of Avon. We are proud of our accomplishments: Number 1 in Beauty, Number 1 in Intimate Apparel, Number 1 in Direct Selling, and Employer of the Year, among many others.

Getting where we are has not been easy. Each year brings new triumphs but with them come new challenges and responsibilities. We have fought battles, ran races, and seen crisis after crisis. But through it all, the Avon family has thrived. Through it all, our commitment and dedication have allowed Avon to emerge victorious. Indeed, we can say we are more alive at 25!



AVON
the company for women

CALL: 864-2900; PROVINCIAL TOLL-FREE 1-800-1-888-2866; E-MAIL: helpdesk.ph@avon.com

**To Your Health**

*By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz*

# Helping Women Face the Morning After

MIKE ALQUINTO

**SHE was a young intern in Boston when a woman was wheeled into the emergency room, bleeding profusely. "Shortly after, she died in my arms because of complications from a botched abortion," recalls Dr. Felicia Hance Stewart. "Then I had to face her husband and young children and tell them about it. I vowed never to let that happen again."**

That resolve has since propelled this obstetrician-gynecologist into active involvement in family planning campaigns to prevent abortion that desperate women often resort to when they have unintended pregnancies.

"It's not an advocacy," says this adjunct professor and co-director of the Center for Reproductive Health Research & Policy at the University of California in San Francisco, and author of several books on gynecology and family planning. "I'm simply trying to provide background information and technical help on contraception and reproductive health."

Dr. Stewart was recently in town for a forum on emergency contraceptives (EC) (locally known by the brand name Postinor), which have been delisted and banned by the Bureau of Food and Drugs amidst much protest from non-government health groups and women's organizations.

The BFAD circular stated that "Postinor has an abortifacient effect…and that it is injurious, unsafe and dangerous, and should be prohibited."

Stewart bewails such conclusions. "How we interpret science is every person's right, but we need to be honest about the facts," she states. EC, she clarifies, are oral contraceptive pills that women can take within 72 hours after intercourse to reduce the risks of becoming pregnant. The pills contain the same ingredients in regular birth control pills but in higher doses, and are known to prevent the chances of pregnancy by as much as 85 percent.

While more research is needed to ascertain why they work, Stewart says EC may either delay or prevent ovulation or fertilization. They've also been known to bring about changes in hormonal patterns that affect the implantation of the fertilized egg. Some reported side effects include nausea, vomiting, headaches, dizziness, cramping, breast tenderness or fatigue. The pills do not protect against sexually transmitted diseases, she adds.

"It is not an abortifacient," stresses this OB-Gyne. "There is no abortion if there is no pregnancy and pregnancy, as defined by medical science, starts when implantation occurs. Conception means the completion of implantation. It would be dishonest to give a new definition." Once implantation has occurred, she adds, the EC has no more effect, and no abortion occurs.

ECs are nothing new, either, says Stewart. "Emergency contraception or morning after pills have been around since the '60s and were prescribed to women who have been raped. But it never occurred to doctors until the 1980s that there are other situations aside from rape where women would need these." She cites condom breakage or slippage and the failure of other contraceptive methods as instances when emergency contraceptives could help prevent unintended pregnancy.

"Thirty years ago, most women wanted big families and stayed home, so having another child wasn't such a big deal. But with the pressures of getting a job to help support the family these days, it's now a premium to help women plan their pregnancies."

Contrary to what the BFAD circular claims, says Stewart, morning after pills could actually reduce the number of abortions. "Abortion is legal in the US, so our data on it is pretty accurate." For the past eight years, she states, the abortion rate in the US has been declining, "by as much as 11 percent in the last six years." The conclusions, she adds, point to "people making better decisions and waiting longer to have sex, but the biggest contributor to the decline is EC."

*Visiting OB-Gyne Dr. Felicia Stewart debunks fears that emergency contraception, also known as the morning after pill, is an abortive agent. If anything, she notes, this hormone pill may help lower the country's abortion rate*

Giving information on EC was something she did as consultant to the Kaiser Family Foundation, recalls Stewart. "I was involved in the public information campaign and provided technical support to scriptwriters of popular TV shows," she adds. "ER" once aired an episode that had a nurse talk to a rape victim on EC and give her one, Stewart cites. "It took about a minute of the show. Since we knew when it was airing, we did an experiment: we did a survey one week before, and another survey one week after the show. We asked the same question: what could a woman do after rape? Well, we discovered that 40 million Americans watched that episode, and that after airing the information on EC, the viewers' awareness about it jumped by 30 percent."

Though she's no longer connected with Kaiser, TV writers still call her up on health information. But as heartening as the public acceptance was, there were also loud protests from anti-abortion fringe groups. "I've experienced being met by anti-abortion rallies and have seen these groups marching and screaming at the women going to abortion clinics."

But the biggest challenge she's faced, she confesses, "is the politics and exploitation of the contraception issue by people who have nothing to lose, in a way that will hurt young women." The conservative Right, she notes, has been using the issue "as an organizing tool."

Dealing with the main oppositor, the Church lobby, has taught her a lot, Stewart admits. "There is the official church which opposes contraception, and there's the majority of Catholics who don't think that way. In my work, I find it better to talk with people than with the priests and bishops. And we have pretty good evidence that Catholic folk are not different from anybody else in terms of wanting to plan their family and having only the children they want. There's nothing peculiar about Catholics, only about their leaders.

"I also believe in keeping religious beliefs separate from government policies. We live in a world with different religious perceptions and must make the distinction between religious belief and government policies. We must find a way to live with each other."

While Filipino women can use regular birth control pills as alternative, Stewart says she believes that Filipino women are committed enough to the issue to see it through. "I have faith in the women," she says.

Indeed, more than a hundred position papers from women's medical and political organizations have poured in since the banning, says Dr. Tony Golez, a member of the committee formed by the Health department to hear the technical arguments of both pro- and anti-EC groups. The committee is headed by Atty. Samilo Barlongay of the UP College of Law, a former Regional Trial Court judge who is also a consultant to Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit. So far, the committee has held three hearings on the case, bringing together opposing sides, among them proponents Likhaan (or Linangan ng Kababaihan, Inc.), Friendly-Care, and RHAN (Reproductive Health Advocacy Network), an alliance of 30 NGOs providing reproductive health information and services and working on policy reform on the issue. EC's opponents include Abay Pamilya and ProLife Philippines.

The committee is set to decide on the women's petition anytime soon. Meanwhile, as a doctor, Stewart believes that reproductive health groups should "make services and resources available to women no matter what the Church thinks."

Even as a young biochemist, Stewart had flashed the same determination when she decided to shift to medical school despite her father's opposition. "I became a biochemist because I imagined myself mixing formulas in my test tubes, but I later realized how lonely life was in a refrigerator," she recounts. She opted for medical school because she wanted social interaction with other people, she adds. When her father heard about it, he crowed, "You won't make it!" Stewart recalls, "I thumped my fist on the table and said, oh yes, I will!"

And so she did, this daughter of an engineer father and a homemaker from California who went back to school to become a social worker. "My brother and I used to tutor Mom in algebra so she could pass her college math," Stewart recalls.

Now she has two grown children, three stepchildren and five grandchildren of her own. "I love babies!" she says.

**Survivors' Tales**

*By Eric S. Caruncho*

# Memoirs of a 'Mad Bomber'

*Doris Nuval, the woman who planted a bomb under Ferdinand Marcos' nose, remembers those explosive days—and says she'd do it all over again if another dictator threatened our freedom*

JOHNNY VILLENA

Fearless but not violent: Doris today

**"IT WAS like I was walking through a tunnel. All I could think about was the target."**

Doris Nuval recalls what must have been the longest day in her 50 years. It happened more than 22 years ago, on Oct.19, 1980. The tunnel was the hallway leading to the plenary hall of the Philippine International Convention Center, where the largest international travel convention in the world was taking place. The target was Ferdinand E. Marcos. Not the man himself, but the image he had carefully built of himself as a benevolent autocrat and of his martial law regime as a kind of benign authoritarianism.

It is one thing to blow up a concrete monument to a dictator nearly 15 years dead. It must have been quite another to plant a bomb right under his nose when he is at the height of his power, and have it blow up in his face, at the precise moment when all the news cameras in the world are trained on him.

Days before, Nuval—then still going by her married name Doris Baffrey—had arrived in Manila from New York to take part in the 50th anniversary convention of the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA). Not only was she an official delegate, but as public relations attaché of the Department of Tourism's New York office, she had helped organize and promote the event.

"I was like a schizoid personality," she recalls of those nerve-racking days. As part of the stringent security measures for the ASTA convention, she had brought with her two boxes containing state-of-the-art bomb detection devices. But unbeknownst to all but a handful of conspirators, she had also brought another box with the very things the devices were supposed to detect. She didn't ask what exactly was in the "canned goods" she had picked up in San Francisco en route to Manila. Later she would discover it was C-4 high explosive, timers and detonators.

In 1980, Nuval was living in New York. She had been divorced from her American husband, with whom she had a young son. Years before, as an idealistic Maryknoll mass communication student coming of age in the heady days of the First Quarter Storm, she had been a student activist, affiliated with the Social Democrat wing of the protest movement. She joined Kasapi, the "socdem" organization. As a committed activist, she had seriously considered going underground like so many others when Marcos declared martial law. Friends had dissuaded her. "Your time will come to serve," they told her.

In the closing years of the '70s, a series of bombings and mysterious fires had shaken Manila. Two groups had taken responsibility for the actions: the April 6 Liberation Movement and the Light-A-Fire Movement. Publicly, the Marcos-controlled media had played down these events as the work of a handful of crackpots. The military had even captured one of them, one Victor Lovely, who had succeeded in blowing off one of his own arms while planting a device. Privately, Marcos' intelligence machinery was convinced these terrorists were being funded by the political opposition in America, among them Benigno Aquino Jr., Raul Manglapus and Steve Psinakis.

Nuval read the manifesto of the bombers as published in the New York Times. It was signed by "the first martyr of Kasapi."

"I realized—my God!—my comrades are the ones doing it," says Baffrey. Not long after, they made contact with her.

"The point of the bombings was to create a situation of chaos, enough to bring martial law to its knees," she says. Being in government, with security clearances and all, she was ideally placed to strike a strategic blow against the empire. "What was really strange is that I really believed in my work of promoting the Philippines as a tourist destination," she recalls. "For two years I was going up and down the East Coast promoting the convention. But after a few sleepless nights, I came to a decision that it was my time to serve."

Nuval prepared her last will and testament and boarded a plane for Manila. Still, she had misgivings about planting bombs. Innocent bystanders could be hurt, even killed. Why not just assassinate the man, she argued. She could get close enough.

"I wanted to do something with more impact, but they said no," says Nuval. Instead, they assured her that the bomb would hurt Marcos's international image more than anything. They even showed her that the device itself would be no bigger than a pack of cigarettes.

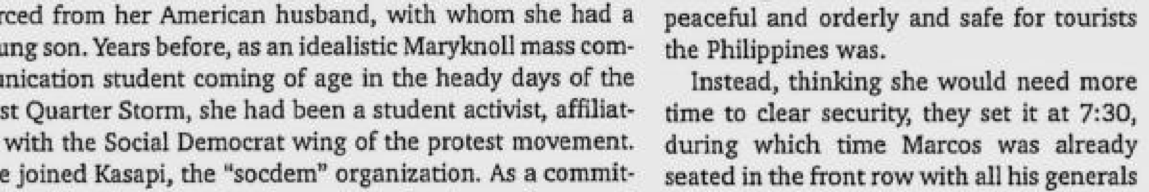
She told the demolition team to set the device for 7 o'clock, when Marcos would be delivering his keynote address, about how peaceful and orderly and safe for tourists the Philippines was.

Instead, thinking she would need more time to clear security, they set it at 7:30, during which time Marcos was already seated in the front row with all his generals and security, watching an AV presentation on Fil-Am relations called "Blood Brothers." The lights were off, the Battle of Manila Bay was onscreen and sound effect explosions were issuing from the speakers when the real bomb went off.

"When the bomb exploded, I was more shocked than anyone else in the room, because they had included an incendiary device," recalls Nuval. "It was a huge explosion. The room was dark and everyone was screaming. It was a big orange ball. When the lights went on, Marcos was in the front row and all his security men were covering him. I was in the aisle, and when they passed me, my feeling was like 'Yes!'"

Outside the hall, the scene was more sobering. "It was pretty bloody," Nuval admits. "I was there, I helped the injured to the hospital. I had resolved long before that in any revolution, people will get caught in the crossfire and there will be injuries. But although the injuries weren't that serious, the injury it caused the regime was far more serious. It made the front pages in the French papers and the New York Times. I learned later that Marcos released millions of pesos to track down those responsible."

It also made the local headlines. Another bomb set by Nuval's colleagues at the neighboring Westin Philippine Plaza hotel injured, among others, popular singer Nonoy Zuñiga, whose leg had to be amputated.



Australian documentarists prepare Doris for a shooting at a 2002 rally at Edsa

In the panic following the bombing, then Tourism Secretary Jose Aspiras pleaded with the delegates to stay. He offered three days free to any destination in the country to any delegate who stayed behind. Nuval took advantage of the offer. She was to have left for Cebu on October 28 when the military came to arrest her.

Marcos had put the pressure on. They had found the cans in a raid on a safehouse, and had traced them to Nuval's *balikbayan* box. Captured conspirators were tortured into revealing the identities of the others. Within days they were at her door.

"It was doubly painful for my dad," recalls Nuval. Commodore Santiago Nuval was a retired naval officer and was close to Marcos. The president had even acted as her guarantor when she was posted to New York. Ironically, Marcos had asked her father if she wouldn't get mixed up with "those Manglapus people in the States." Her father had assured him that she was over that stage in her life.

"Later on my dad told me that Marcos had thought highly of me," she says. "A few days after I was arrested, they blindfolded me and took me to a building. I thought that was it, I was dead."

But when the blindfold was removed, she found herself facing a press conference. That was the birth of the "mad bomber." "I thought we would be charged with subversion," she says. "But when we faced the military tribunal, it was 21 cases in all, ranging from attempted assassination of the president to serious physical injuries."

The case dragged on for months, during which time she was held in Camp Crame with common criminals. Prison rape was an ever-present threat. At the same time, her interrogators kept up the pressure. One day, she was told she was going to be treated to a steak luncheon. She found herself eating steak at a table with three Americans, one of whom introduced himself as the head of the international terrorism unit of the FBI.

"They were insisting that I had trained as an urban guerrilla," she says. For several hours on different occasions, the three Americans tried to establish a US connection that would justify their theory of an international terrorist conspiracy. They offered to set her up with a new identity and a new life in any country of her choice. When that didn't work, they issued veiled threats against her ex-husband and son, who were still in the US. At one point, the FBI man tore off a sheet of paper and handed it to her, saying: "Name your price."

"I said, 'What's the combined budget of the FBI and the CIA? That's my price.' I think it backfired on me because they couldn't believe that I was just a member. That's why I stayed in prison so long. In truth, I didn't know anything. I met Raul Manglapus and Steve Psinakis once, that was it."

Finally, the FBI agent threatened to turn her over to Filipino guards, hinting at some nasty consequences. "I said, 'You mean rape? I married an American because I like white meat! I'll take you on right here on this table, one by one!' They backed off."

In 1981, Marcos finally yielded to pressure and lifted martial law. Nuval believes the ASTA bombing deserves part of the credit. The case was transferred to the civil courts, and lawyers Joker Arroyo and Rene Saguisag drafted a plea bargain: they would plead guilty to subversion in exchange for lighter sentences. Since they had already been imprisoned for more than a year, the conspirators were released, with one exception.

"Later on I learned that the military didn't get clearance from Marcos for my plea bargain," she says. "He said, 'She's going to rot there.'"

Nuval stayed in prison for the next three years, until her father finally got through to Marcos, who agreed to release her on condition she leave the country. When she tried to renew her US visa, she was told she would be arrested the moment she set foot on American soil for "exporting revolution." For all intents and purposes, the FBI still considered her an "international terrorist." In the end, she went to Holland where she stayed from 1985 until Marcos fled to Hawaii in February 1986.

"I was back home in 10 days," she recalls. With the dictatorship shattered, she knew what she wanted to do.

"When I was in prison, I was allowed to bring in a small television set, and 'Viewpoint' was the most popular talk show then. That's when I realized how powerful the medium was, and I decided that when I got out, I would get into television."

Eventually, she was appointed to head PTV-4, the government television network. The "international terrorist" tag continued to dog her, however. At one point, US embassy officials asked then Press Secretary Teddyboy Locsin why the government had chosen a terrorist to head its TV network.

After her stint in the Aquino government, Nuval went into the NGO sector. "I'm still as idealistic now as when I was 18," she says. "There's a continuum. I could never see myself working in a dog-eat-dog capitalist set-up. Cause-oriented forever, that's me."

These days, however, her cause is education as the answer to poverty. Nuval's formidable energies are channeled toward raising funds for the educational cable network Knowledge Channel. As resource mobilization manager of the Sky Foundation, her job is to get as many public schools as possible connected to the channel's curriculum-based programs. She also chairs a women's rights group, Kababaihan Para Sa Inang Bayan.

Last year, an Australian filmmaker did a 30-minute documentary on her life as part of a series called "Fearless: Asian Women Freedom Fighters." It premieres this month in Perth.

At 50, Nuval is a woman with no regrets. "I have a decent love life. I exercise a lot. I also moved back home to take care of my parents."

When Edsa II broke out, she even volunteered to do a repeat perfomance. "I told them, 'Give me the authority and the weapons.'" The opposition, however, balked.

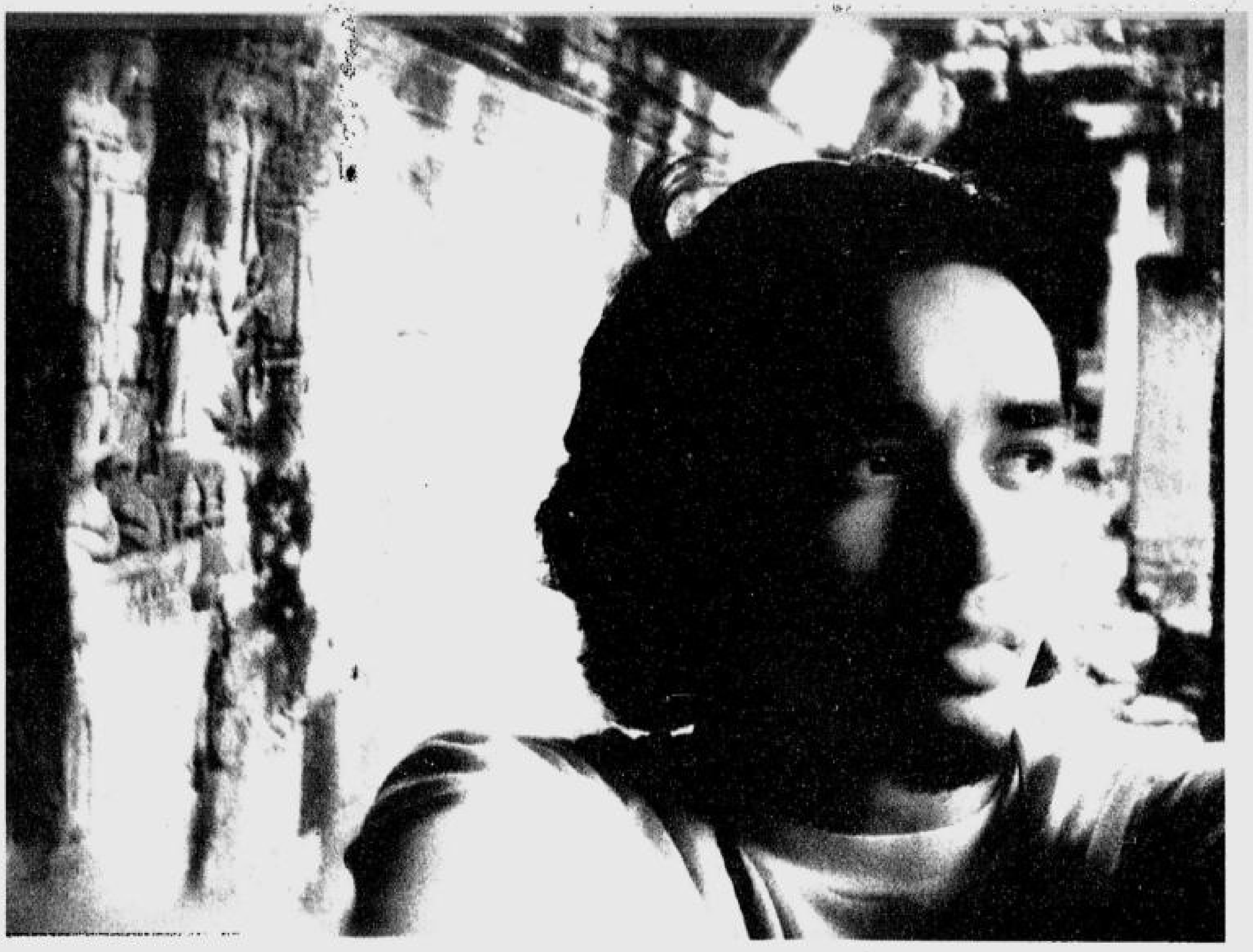
Says Nuval: "I don't know if I'm a naturally violent person, but if—God forbid—another dictatorship were to come into the picture, I wouldn't hesitate."

**Artwatch**

*By Rodolfo A.G. Silvestre Jr.*

# The Art of the Snailman

*Fascinated with snails, a favorite motif in his work, artist Datu Arellano sees parallels between his life and this lowly mollusk*



**Datu's self portrait, top, and installation work, above, both at Angkor Wat**

**HOW long would it take a snail to reach Angkor Wat if it crawled all the way from where the Pinaglabanan Galleries once stood in San Juan? All of 22 years, according to Deodato Antonio Luna Arellano, referring to how long it took him to mature from being a gallery baby to being the country's representative to the First Asean Cultural Week at the Angkor Wat in Cambodia, held last October 23 to November 1.**

Datu grew up amidst the exhibits and creative exercises of his aunt, artist Agnes Arellano and her friends. He now works at the Photography Art Center in Makati as technical assistant and part-time instructor.

"No, they didn't impose their art on me," says Datu of the artist friends of his aunt, the founder and owner of the once legendary Pinaglabanan Galleries. His father Deogracias works as a graphics designer in the United States and the young Datu had the usual paper and crayons on which he'd do works that his mother found amusingly similar to those of Miro and Chabet.

His entering the National High School for the Arts in Makiling was an idea of the late artist Roberto Villanueva. It became a turning point in his life. "It allowed me total growth, socially, artistically and academically."

In the famous school, Datu found supportive mentors, among them "Tata" Nanding Josef, now CCP vice president and artistic director, who was then its principal and administrator. Other mentors included award-winners like the couple Freddie and Isabel Aquilizan, Gerry Leonardo, Roberto Feleo and Bernie Solina. "They taught us the elements of the arts, but also showed us how to break the rules, and when to break them."

For his high school thesis, Datu made a sculpture piece, an installation of a white man lying on his tummy over a bed of crushed marble, with snails crawling over him. The snails, all 2,000 of them, were of marble mixed with resin, with 21 variations.

"It's both a reaction to myself and to society. To myself, because I felt at that time that I was going too fast, trying to learn and know about things all at once. I told myself I shouldn't hurry. But it also meant it would take some time before I could understand my father, who left for the States when I was only two. Actually, the man in the installation work was my father."

Datu's piece would make waves in the Makiling artistic community and helped get him first honorable mention when he graduated in 1998. The same piece would be shown during the Humanities Week celebration at UP Baguio. While in Baguio, he also had a solo exhibit at the De La Salle University Art Gallery in 1999 where again, his high school thesis was shown.

Another piece,*"Ulan,"* featured a snail, struck by a single nail amid thousands that had fallen on the ground, as it crawled towards an umbrella. "This is to say that we shouldn't be too slow in life lest one single nail stops our journey altogether." The exhibit's title was "Schnell," which is German for, you guessed it, snail. By then, his friends have baptized him "The Snailman," an identity he has adopted through his e-mail address.

The snail, he says, "became my personal icon because I understand it. Others find the snail disgusting but it has its good points. I always try to find something beautiful in something that others find ugly."

Particularly memorable was a solo exhibit at the De La Salle Gallery titled *"Magnilay"* (to meditate), where his pieces were "mostly a play with materials, such as matchsticks inside film cans, rusty nails, crushed and painted-over cans of chocolate drinks, and toilet paper formed into tiny objects.

A favorite piece, "Meditations in White," he actually conceptualized in the comfort room where he pulled out toilet paper and formed it into a tiny snail-like object. Datu also busied himself with the Anino Shadowplay Collective Inc., where he was puppeteer, voice talent, visual director and puppet designer. With former mentor Bernadette Solina, fellow Makiling alumni Mark Cosico, Don Salubayba, and Melecio Yamao and Charm Callejo, he went to Greece for a presentation of the shadow play "Ibalon."

When the Cultural Center of the Philippines and the National Commisson for Culture and the Arts called out for nominations for local participants to the Asean Cultural Week, Datu had a portfolio ready, but made sure to brush up on Philippine Arts and on Angkor Wat. "As the country's representative for installation arts, I was interacting with others in creating public art with the Angkor Wat as our inspiration."

Already, he is looking beyond Angkor Wat, thinking of how he can use his experience "to enhance our styles and techniques." As the Snailman muses, "I am not really in a hurry, and I don't want to be hurried. I still have a long way to go as an artist."

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## Katya

...from page 2

**Another side: "I take what I do outside showbiz more seriously"**

**Katya**: I think it depends on the person. If I want people to see me differently away from showbiz, that's up to me. I shouldn't wear sexy clothes when I go out. I just wear a T-shirt and pants when I go out so people will see that it's just a role.

**SIM: Do you see yourself as a sensual person?**

**Katya**: I do see myself as a sensual person, but that would be for just one person. I actually smile a lot on TV and I'm like that in real life. People get this initial impression that I'm mataray but that's just on TV. I do like wearing sexy clothes sometimes, but I choose carefully when to do so. I don't like it kasi pag pinagtitinginan ako ng mga tao (I feel uncomfortable when people stare at me).

**SIM: So you mean you're still not used to it?**

**Katya**: Not really. *Baka kasi mabastos ka. Kung ayaw mong mabastos, 'wag kang magsusuot ng ganong damit* (I'm afraid I'll be harassed. If I don't want that, I shouldn't wear sexy clothes in public). But so far, even when I'm in sexy clothes, nothing bad has happened. In fact, they're more polite to me now.

**SIM: What do you feel about the people who watched you as a kid on "*Ang* TV" and will also get to see you naked in "Sukdulan"? Does that make you feel weird at all?**

**Katya**: I don't feel it now, because I'm the one who's doing the baring. But I talked to some of my friends and fans from way back. *Yung iba nanghihinayang* (some are regretful). But others naman are excited. *Siguro nabibigla lang talaga sila.* (Some of them will probably be taken aback).

**SIM: Young actors are usually held up to high standards, constantly reminded that they are supposed to be role models. With this decision to go bold, do you still consider yourself a role model?**

**Katya:** Oh, yes. Because I finished my studies before I went into this. I followed everything my parents told me. All throughout the years, I never had an issue in showbiz. My name is clean. If anyone wants to follow me and go sexy, they should finish their studies first. I really wanted to graduate first. I didn't want people to say things about me, like *"Kaya lang nag-*bold *yan kasi walang pupuntahan." Ayoko ng ganon* ("The only reason she went bold was because she had nowhere to go." I didn't want that). I have a lot of pride.

**SIM: Some of the sexy stars start out in demand for a while and then eventually fade away. What will you do if your career stalls after this current hot streak?**

**Katya:** I'm readying myself for that. But I don't want to think negative thoughts. That's why I have something to fall back on. Actually, I'm not making this my priority. I take what I do outside showbiz more seriously. If it doesn't happen, I have options. I can't make everyone like me, so if that happens, what can you do? You just have to accept it and move on.

**SIM: So do you look at this as a business or as an adventure?**

**Katya:** Not a business. Let's say it's one of my adventures. I don't want to think of this as my future. I have something else in mind for myself. Not this.

**SIM: You're just 20, and are going through so much. What do you see as the long-term effect this decision will have on your life?**

**Katya:** It's changed my life 100 percent. My life was so different before. Very ordinary. Now, it's totally different. Financially, emotionally, mentally, everything has changed.

**SIM: So all in all, the decision to go bold has been a positive experience for you?**

**Katya:** Yes, it's been very positive for me. I'm glad I did it.

## This Week

### Art

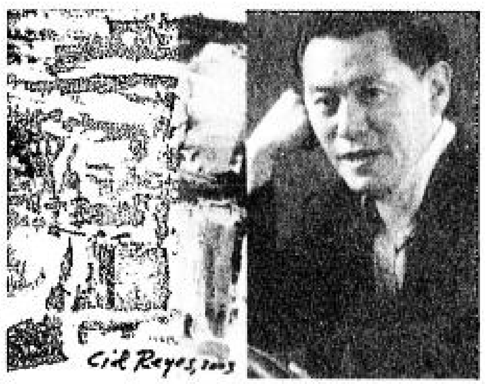
**Cid Reyes** presents a collection of his recent works on paper at the Drawing Room, Metrostar Building, 1007 Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City until Feb. 5.

**Familiar Strangers**, a new series of big charcoal works on paper by Kiko Escora, until Feb. 5 at The Drawing Room, Metropolitan Avenue, Makati City. For details, call 897-6990.

### Music

**Back 2 U!: Lou @ Tavern**, a special concert featuring Lou Bonnevie on Feb. 1 at Tavern on the Square, Greenbelt 3, Makati. For tickets, call 757-4484 and 85.

Marithe Francoise Girbaud and Club Induztria presents the launching party of DJ JT Joel Ruiz's first CD, **Resonance**, at Wherelse Bar, Makati City on Jan. 31, 9 p.m.



**Cid Reyes' recent works on exhibit at the Drawing Room**

### Onstage

The Ateneo Children's Theater presents **The Fiddler on the Roof** featuring talented students from the Ateneo, Miriam Grade School and St. Bridget's School. Playdates are Jan. 31, Feb. 1, 7 and 8 at 6 p.m. at the Henry Lee Irwin Theater, Ateneo de Manila campus. For details, call 426-5957 or 426-0872.

### Cinema

The Anvil Executive Club will hold a gala premiere of the epic film **Hero** directed by Zhang Yimou and starring Jet Li on Feb. 1, 7:30 p.m. at SM Megamall Cinema 10. Also on that day, the group will announce the nationwide search for the Anvil Prize for Courage in Public Service to honor the person or group with exceptional moral courage in public service. For inquiries, call 726-7029 or 723-9957.

### Food

Makati Shangri-La's famous *Tikoy* or sweet sticky rice is available for take-out at a specially designated counter located at the main lobby until Feb. 3. Guests can choose from the regular round or the lucky fish-shaped tikoy varieties that come in sweet rice and yam flavors. For inquiries, call 840-0884.

### Atbp

The UP Institute of Creative Writing is now accepting **applications for fellowships to the 42nd UP National Writers Workshop**, to be held at the UP College Baguio from April 20 to May 3. Applicants are advised to submit either six poems, two short stories or two one-act plays. Applicants should enter using a pseudonym, four hard copies (double-spaced) and a computer diskette (MS Word) containing the entries (Times New Roman, font size 12). Entries should be accompanied by a sealed letter envelope with the author's real name and the pseudonym, application letter, a 2" x 2" photo, short resumé, and an attestation of originality. All manuscripts in Bikol, Iluko and the major languages in the Visayas and Mindanao should be accompanied by an English or Filipino translation. Fellows from previous UP workshops need not apply. Send all applications to: Director Virgilio S. Almario, UP Institute of Creative Writing, 2/F Bulwagang Rizal, Diliman, Quezon City 1101. Deadline is Jan. 31. For details, call 920-5301 loc. 7974.

**Tips, Techniques, Tricks of the Trade**, a series of seminars on food packaging and labeling techniques, is one of the highlights in the second Philippine Food Expo 2003 on Jan. 29 to Feb. 2 at the SM Megamall Trade. For details, call 436-3556 or 925-3519.

**UK Fortnight**, a two-week celebration of all things British. Schedules are as follows: "Through the Looking-Glass, a theatrical presentation of fashion, hair and dance (Jan. 27, Mandarin Oriental Hotel Ballroom); UK Film Festival (Jan. 29 to Feb. 4, Shangri-La Plaza Mall); Food from the UK (Jan. 31 to Feb. 6, Edsa Shangri-La Hotel); Philip John Golding's UK Cooking (Feb. 1, 2 p.m. at the Peninsula Hotel Manila); Chevening Awards Night (Feb. 7, Peninsula Hotel); Literary Public Readings at Eastwood City Walk (Feb. 1), Remedios Circle (Feb. 7) and Shangri-La Plaza Mall (Feb. 8); UK Education Fair (Feb. 8 and 9 at the Peninsula Hotel), and Computer Gaming (Feb. 8 and 9). For details, call 914-1011 to 14.

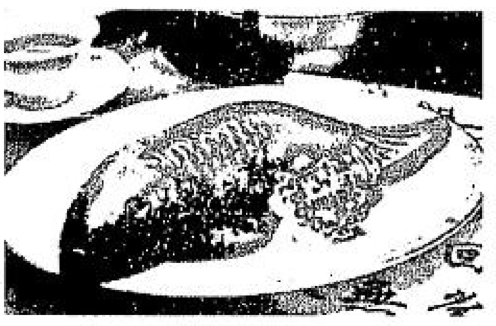
Edson & Co. is sponsoring a two-day **workshop on Negotiation for Business Executives** on Feb. 5-6 at the Yuchengco Institute for Advanced Studies, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue, Makati City. from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The workshop will engage in a series of negotiation lectures and role-playing exercises that illustrate model problems in business which can be used for crafting cooperative agreements like collective bargaining agreements, term loans or purchase agreements. For reservations and inquiries, call 878-8585 or email info@edson.com.ph.

PlusiMinus Film Camp will hold **workshops in filmmaking and photography** from February until May. Workshop courses include directing, cinematography, scriptwriting, acting, production management, production design, videography and photography, both basic and advance to be held at Don Bosco Gym in Parañaque and at Unit 302 CKSY Diamond Building, 156 A. Arnaiz Ave., Pasay City. For details, call 834-1163 or 824-3027.

### X-manila

**Ancestral Houses, Oriental Churches**, a back-to-back exhibit by Bulacan artists Danny Pangan and Al Perez of nostalgic subjects on ancestral antiquity, Jan. 28 to Feb. 8 at Genluna Gallery, 12 General Luna St., Davao City. For details, call (082) 226-2104.

The Philippine Indigenous Games & Sports Savers Association, Inc., Modern Arnis Federation, Philippines Inc. and the Philippine Arnis Institute will mount an **arnis demonstration** on Jan. 26, 4-6 p.m. at Robinsons Place Imus, Cavite. The two-hour event will be composed of a short film viewing on the evolution of arnis, arnis orientation and arnis demonstrations to be performed by proficient arnisadores of IMAF. For inquiries, call 524-2997 or 0918-5797641.



**Traditional Tikoy available for take-out at Makati Shangri-La**

**For this week's bands and schedules call:**

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

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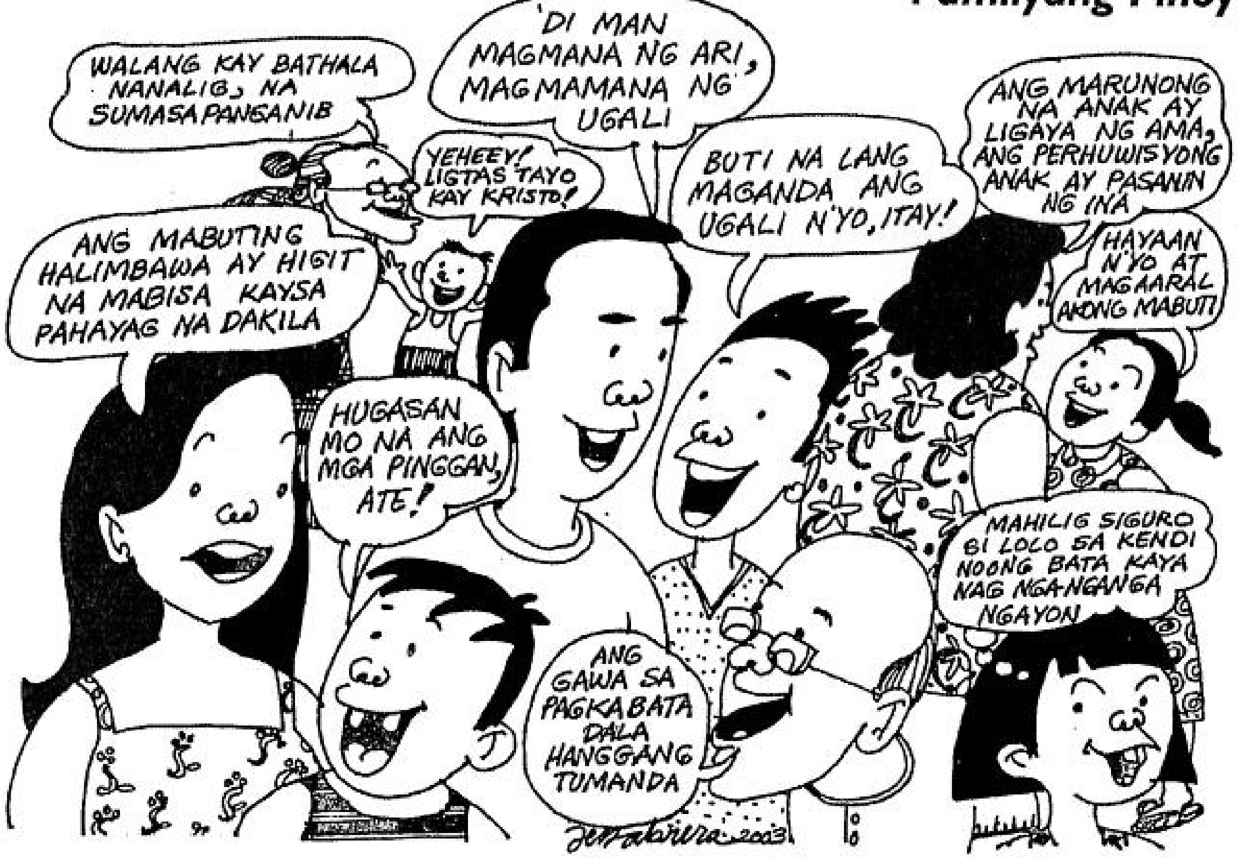
The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

**IMAF Arnisadores hold an arnis demonstration at Robinsons Place, Imus**

## Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

### Pamilyang Pinoy


WALANG KAY BATHALA NANALIG, NA SUMASAPANGANIB
'DI MAN MAGMANA NG ARI, MAGMAMANA NG UGALI
ANG MARUNONG NA ANAK AY LIGAYA NG AMA, ANG PERHUWISYONG ANAK AY PASANIN NG INA
YEHEEY! LIGTAS TAYO KAY KRISTO!
BUTI NA LANG MAGANDA ANG UGALI N'YO, ITAY!
ANG MABUTING HALIMBAWA AY HIGIT NA MABISA KAYSA PAHAYAG NA DAKILA
HAYAAN N'YO AT MAGAARAL AKONG MABUTI
HUGASAN MO NA ANG MGA PINGGAN, ATE!
MAHILIG SIGURO SI LOLO SA KENDI NOONG BATA KAYA NAG NGANGANGA NGAYON
ANG GAWA SA PAGKABATA DALA HANGGANG TUMANDA
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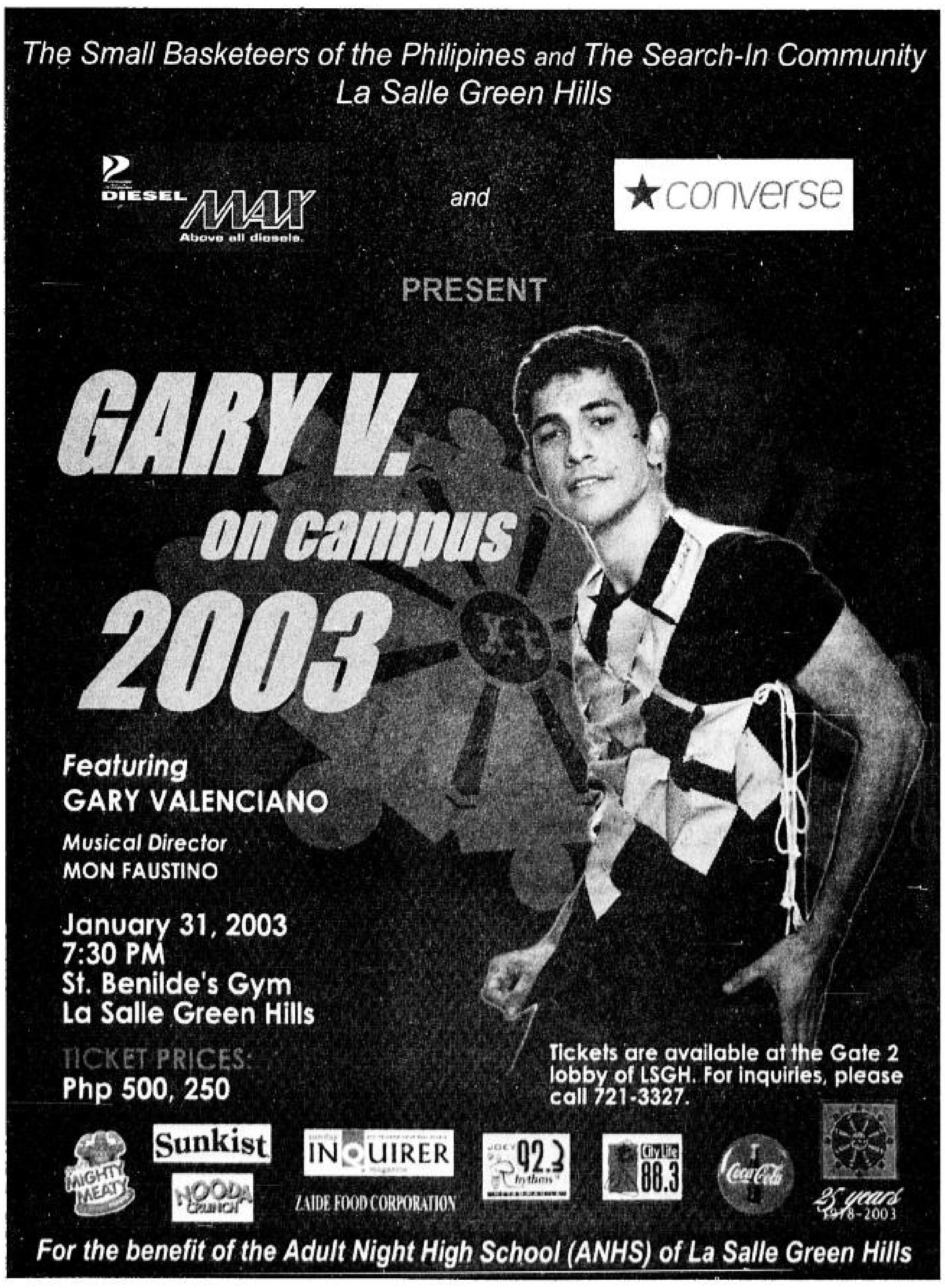
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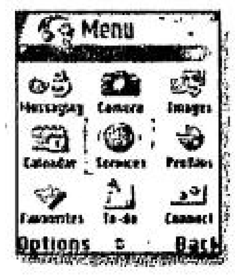
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Profiles
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Options
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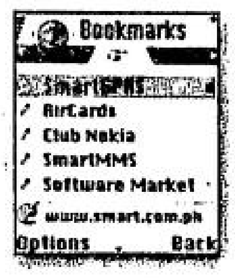
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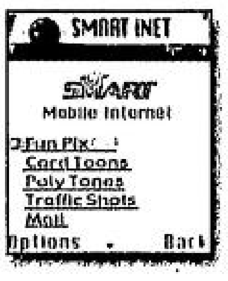
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| To activate | Key in |
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- Activation of MMS and GPRS will only take a few minutes upon request.
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Send all keywords to **333.**

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